TUESDAY
December 6, 2022

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
20 Pages ₹ 6.00

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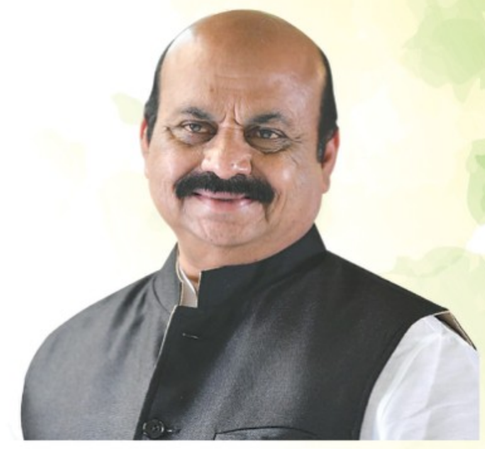
NAVA KARNATAKA
FOR NAVA BHARAT

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister



Shri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

April 14, 1891 - December 6, 1956

Respectful Tributes to Chief Architect of the Constitution,
Great Humanist and Champion of Equality
Bharat Ratna **Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**,
on the occasion of **Mahaparinirvan Diwas**

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was a great reformer who fought for women's rights, the rights of oppressed sections, and equality. Our fittest tribute to him would be walking on the path of equality he espoused.

Steps taken by the State Government for the development of SC/ST communities

- Allocation of Rs. 29,165.81 crore for SCSP/TSP projects (SCSP – Rs. 20,843.03 crore; TSP – Rs.8322.78 crore).
- Total grants provided to Departments of Social Welfare and ST Welfare – Rs. 5,998.25 crore
- Reservation for SC raised from 15% to 17% and ST from 3% to 7%
- Separate Secretariat for the welfare of ST
- Under Land Ownership Scheme, unit cost increased from Rs. 15 lakhs to Rs. 20 lakhs for SC/ST
- Foundation Stone Laid for Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Spoorthi Bhavan in front of Vikasa Soudha to be constructed at a cost of Rs. 58 crore
- Rs. 1,000.19 crore grant to boards of SC/ST for programmes such as Self-Employment, Ganga Kalyan, etc. (includes an additional grant of Rs. 420 crore)
- Construction of 100 Dr. B. R. Ambedkar hostels and 11 KRIES (residential schools) buildings at a cost of Rs. 750 crore under SCSP/TSP grants of PWD
- Rs. 250 crore for the construction of 1000-capacity multi-storey Deendayal Upadhyaya Sauharda Hostels in Belagavi, Hubballi-Dharwad, Kalaburagi, Mangaluru and Mysuru
- Monthly food expenses for post-matric students increased from Rs. 1,600 to Rs. 1,750, and for pre-matric students from Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 1,650
- Under the e-Commerce Scheme, Rs. 50,000 assistance and Rs. 20,000 loan for 22,400 unemployed SC/ST beneficiaries to purchase Electric and other two-wheelers
- 25% reservation for SC/ST women for self-employment under all Boards and Corporations of the Government
- Entrepreneurship training for 300 SC/ST women at Indian Institute of Management, Bengaluru. Training for three batches is underway.
- Financial assistance given to SC/ST communities living in rural areas for building homes increased from Rs. 1.75 lakh to Rs. 2 lakh.
- 75 units of electricity per month free for BPL SC/ST families
- Rs. 20 crore for the development of 10 important places visited by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar in Karnataka
- Under Prabhuddha Scheme, financial assistance to 70 SC students and 23 ST students for pursuing higher studies in foreign universities
- Rs. 50 crore grant for the development of ST, nomadic, semi-nomadic, sensitive and highly sensitive communities
- Rs. 68.87 crore grant for providing the 4% interest subsidy for SC/ST entrepreneurs
- Rs. 200 crore grant to the Dept. of Industries and Commerce for the construction of industrial sites/sheds to establish industries for SC/ST
- Rs. 177 crore grant for providing financial assistance to SC/ST community buildings, colony development, organizations and associations
- Govt. has responded with humanity to the problem of Pourakarmikas and is providing Rs. 2,000 as a monthly hardship allowance to them to give them social respect and security
- Notification issued regularizing the employment of 11,136 Pourakarmikas

As enshrined in our Constitution, - to safeguard public property and to abjure violence is the fundamental duty of every citizen of India.

karnataka information
Department of Information and Public Relations

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PRESIDENCY PREP

Modi chairs all-party meet on G-20 agenda

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Livakovic rises to the occasion

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Jaishankar defends Russian oil purchase

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No uniformity in parole and furlough rules

Why arbitrariness is likely to creep in

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'NEW BRITAIN' AGENDA

Labour promises to scrap House of Lords

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DMK seeks review of SC verdict on 10% EWS quota

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The ruling DMK in Tamil Nadu on Monday filed a petition in the Supreme Court to review its judgment upholding the 10% quota granted to economically weaker sections in government jobs and educational institutions, saying the leeway has made a large section of upper caste population eligible for "easy exclusive luxurious" reservation.

The decision came after DMK president and Chief Minister M.K. Stalin convened an all-party meeting. The petition, settled by senior advocate P. Wilson, said the judgment had rewritten the settled law laid down by a nine-judge Bench that froze reservation at 50%, leaving the rest to meritorious candidates.

CONTINUED ON
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SC offers to find solution to 'deceitful conversions'

Bench says it will examine 'veiled intentions' behind religious conversions through allurement by offering food, medicines, treatment; purpose of charity should not be conversion, it adds

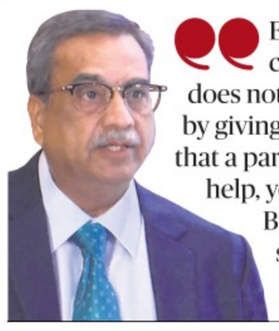
Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday said acts of charity or good work to help a community or the poor should not cloak an intention to convert them religiously as payback.

A Bench, led by Justice M.R. Shah, said conversion on the basis of a voluntarily felt belief in the deity of a different faith was different from belief gained through allurement.

The court said it would examine such veiled intentions behind religious conversions through allurement by offering food, medicines, treatment and so on.

The court posted for final hearing on December 12 the "very serious issue" of forcible or deceitful conversions in the country. "We are here for a cause, we are here to find a solution," it said.



> Everybody has a right to choose their faith but that does not mean luring somebody by giving something. If you believe that a particular community needs help, you help it. It is charity. But the purpose of charity should not be conversion
>
> JUSTICE M.R. SHAH

"Everybody has a right to choose their faith but that does not mean luring somebody by giving something. If you believe that a particular community needs help, you help it. It is charity. But the purpose of charity should not be conversion. Every charity or good work is welcome, but what requires to be considered is the intention... Charity, help, everything is welcome, but within the framework. The intention should be very clear. That is what we will consider," Justice Shah said. "When everybody is India, they have to act as per the culture of India," he noted.

Justice C.T. Ravikumar, the Associate Judge on the Bench, said that "this is required for the harmony of India".

When senior advocate Sanjay Hegde said people could choose to renounce their faith for various reasons, Justice Shah said "belief is a different thing... Belief by allurement, that is very dangerous".

At this point, Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, for the Centre, said it was therefore that a "statutory mechanism" was in place. "A neutral authority will decide whether it is in lieu of grains, medicines, treatment offered that a person is converting or whether there is a religious or philosophical change of heart," he said.

CONTINUED ON
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Exit polls predict BJP win in Gujarat, close contest in Himachal

Poll predictions

Exit polls predict a clear edge for the BJP in Gujarat and a close fight between the BJP and Congress in Himachal Pradesh

Gujarat (182 seats)

Exit polls	BJP	INC+	AAP	Others
India Today-Axis My India	129-151	16-30	9-21	2-6
Today's Chanakya	150±11	19±9	11±7	2±2
ABP News-CVoter	128-140	31-43	3-11	2-6

Himachal Pradesh (68 seats)

Exit polls	BJP	INC	AAP	Others
India Today-Axis My India	24-34	30-40	0	4-8
Today's Chanakya	33±7	33±7	0	2±2
ABP News-CVoter	33-41	24-32	0	0-4

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Exit polls have predicted that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) will retain power in Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh, but may suffer a big jolt from the Aam Aadmi Party in the civic elections in Delhi. Counting of votes in the two States is on Thursday.

In Gujarat, the BJP is projected to secure a seventh consecutive term with the *News X-Jan Ki Baat* survey forecasting 117 to 140 seats for the party, 34 to 51 seats for the Congress-Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) combine and six to 13 seats for the AAP.

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GUJARAT POLLS
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NEARBY

Winter session to cost ₹37 crore

BELAGAVI
With the 10-day winter session set to begin in Belagavi from December 19, officials have prepared an estimate amounting to ₹37 crore for conducting the event at Suvarna Soudha. » Page 6

SSLC examination from March 31

BENGALURU
The SSLC main examination will be held between March 31 and April 15, 2023 across the State. The Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board released the final timetable on Monday. Earlier, in the tentative timetable, the board had planned to conduct the examination from April 1, 2023. » Page 4

On ice

Winter stupor: Houseboats line the shores of the Dal Lake in Srinagar on Monday morning. At minus 3.4 degree Celsius, Sunday night was the coldest of the season in the city. NISSAR AHMAD

Maharashtra Ministers barred from entering Belagavi district amid border row

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI/BENGALURU

Amidst the Karnataka-Maharashtra border row escalating, Belagavi district administration on Monday, issued orders barring entry of two Maharashtra Ministers and an MP who were to arrive in the city on Tuesday and meet leaders of the Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti (MES).

Deputy Commissioner and district magistrate Nitesh Patil issued prohibitory orders under Section 144 of CrPC, barring entry of the trio who are members of the Maharashtra High Power Committee on the Border Dispute. According to the government order, there are apprehensions that the Ministers could deliver provocative speeches against the Karnataka government or Kannada language.

Karnataka Rakshana Vedike and Karnataka Ekikaran Samiti members staging a protest in Belagavi on Monday. P.K. BADIGER

In an order issued on Monday, Mr. Patil asked Chandrakant (Dada) Patil, Higher Education Minister, Shambhuraj Desai, Excise Minister, and Dhairyasheel Mane, MP, not to cross the border and enter Belagavi district, as it was likely to disturb peace and law and order in the border district. Mr. Patil cited instances of recent law and order disturbances in Belagavi city and in the district. He also quoted statements of leaders of Kannada and Marathi groups and the claims of Mr. Patil and others of entering Belagavi and holding meetings with pro-Marathi groups, all of which had the potential to disturb peace.

Earlier in the day, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai indicated "tough action" to maintain law and order. He told reporters: "It is not right for the Maharashtra Ministers to visit Belagavi despite Karnataka Chief Secretary writing to Maharashtra government. We have communicated in writing that it is going to create law and order problem."

Acknowledging that they have the freedom to move around freely in the country, he said, "However, this is not the right time to come. The State government has certain rights to maintain law and order. I have directed the revenue and police officials to take steps that will ensure maintenance of law and order."

Appealing to Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde against the visit of the Ministers, Mr. Bommai said, "Border issue has been sorted out already. Despite that you have gone to the Supreme Court. Whatever legal battle there is, let us fight. However, the harmonious relationship between people of both States should not be affected."

World Bank set to approve $517 million loan to Karnataka for water projects

Nagesh Prabhu
BENGALURU

The World Bank is in the process of approving a loan to the tune of $517 million for augmenting urban and and rural drinking water supply projects in Karnataka.

A World Bank mission led by Auguste Tano Kouamé, the bank's Country Director for India, on Monday called on Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and held discussions on potential for investment in numerous projects in Karnataka.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Mr Kouamé said the bank was in the process of finalising additional $150 million to Karnataka urban water supply management project and $367 million for Karnataka rural drinking water project for augmenting water supplies in both urban and rural areas of the State. While the urban project would be implemented in tier II cities, the rural water project would be implemented across the State. Both the projects would be implemented during a 5-8 year duration with lending from the IBRD.

Country Director of World Bank Auguste Tano Kouamé being greeted by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai in Bengaluru.

The World Bank's partnership with Karnataka for urban water reforms started in 2004 and has been ongoing. Mr. Kouamé said, "The team discussed potential areas for the bank investment in Karnataka. Our talks were very fruitful. We spent almost a day discussing various projects with Mr Bommai, Chief Secretary Vandita Sharma, and officials of the finance department." There was no hesitancy on the part of the bank for extending lending to Karnataka, which was "one of the fast-reforming states", he said.

In the wake of flooding in Bengaluru, Mr. Bommai has asked the bank officials to prepare a comprehensive project for disaster risk management for providing a stronger focus on prevention and preparing for shocks, enabling a reduction in loss of lives, and mitigating some economic impacts, he said.

Both the bank and senior officials of the government discussed other areas of focus such as urban planning, drought management, coastal waste management, Mr Kouamé said.

For the first time in the country, the bank is preparing an innovative plastic management project for coastal Karnataka.

3 vegetable vendors killed in accident near Kudur in Ramanagaram district

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Three vegetable vendors, including two women, were killed while four others were injured when the goods vehicle they were travelling in fell into a gorge, after the driver lost control, on the Bengaluru-Mangaluru highway near Narayana Palya gate near Kudur in Ramanagaram district, in the wee hours of Monday.

The deceased have been identified as Manjunath, 31, Lakshmmamma, 45, and Rathnamma, 50, residents of Belluru, near Nagamangala. The deceased, along with three others, were travelling in the goods vehicle to go to Dasanapura AMPC yard to get vegetables around 1.30 a.m. The police said the vegetable vendors used to regularly go to the APMC yard to get the vegetables and sell them in their hometown.

'Driver was drowsy'

Initial investigations revealed that the driver was drowsy and was also overspeeding. While the driver and three others travelling in the cabin escaped with minor injuries, the three persons sitting in the back of the vehicle were crushed to death as it toppled and rolled over several times before coming to rest deep below in the gorge. Passers-by noticed the accident, and informed the police, who shifted the victims to the hospital. The vehicle was pulled out later with the help of a crane.

The Kudur police have arrested the driver and charged him for causing death due to negligence, and rash and negligent driving. The driver was subjected to medical examination, and he was not drunk.

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Funds from UN organisations to be excluded from FCRA

117 The number of United Nations bodies and other international organisations whose contribution to Indian entities will not be covered under the stringent Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA), 2010, according to the Union Home Ministry. Indian organisations receiving foreign funds should mandatorily be registered under the FCRA. PTI

Fines imposed on the Indian cricket team for slow over-rate

80 The percentage of the match fee fined by the International Cricket Council (ICC) on Indian players for slow over-rate in their first ODI, where the country lost against Bangladesh by one wicket. India was fined after the team was ruled to be four overs short of the target, in accordance with Article 2.22 of ICC's Code of Conduct for players and player support personnel. PTI

Commercial losses decrease, discoms' finances improve

17 In percentage, the decline in aggregate technical and commercial (AT&C) losses of power distribution utilities in the financial year 2021-22 from 22% in FY21. Reduction in AT&C losses improves finances of utilities (discoms), enabling them to better maintain the system and buy power as per requirement and benefit of the consumers, a power Ministry statement said. PTI

More drug-related cases booked in Himachal Pradesh

40 The percentage of inmates out of the total inmates lodged in 14 prisons in Himachal Pradesh, who are booked in connection with drug abuse under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act. The prisons here are overcrowded as 2,909 inmates are lodged against the capacity of 2,437 of which 68% are under trial and 32% are convicted. PTI

Tourism in Sri Lanka revives as pandemic restrictions are relaxed

1,129 In $ million, Sri Lanka's earnings from tourist arrivals in the first eleven months of this year, the country's central bank has said, an impressive surge buoyed by the resumption of international flights and easing of curbs related to the coronavirus. The tourism sector is the main source of foreign exchange in the country. PTI

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The lingering crisis of labour post-pandemic

What are the crises recognised by two reports on declining wages and purchasing power as well as unemployment? Who has the increased cost of living affected the most? Has the pandemic further contributed to wage inequality? What has the International Labour Organisation suggested as policy measures?

EXPLAINER

A. M. Jigeesh

GETTY IMAGES

The story so far:

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) recently released two reports that gave an indication of the global employment scenario post-pandemic. The 'Global Wage Report 2022-2023: The Impact of inflation and COVID-19 on wages and purchasing power' discuss the twin crises, inflation and economic slowdown, which created a "striking fall" in real monthly wages around the globe. The report blames the war in Ukraine and the global energy crisis for this situation. Another report, the 'Asia-Pacific Employment and Social Outlook 2022: Rethinking sectoral strategies for a human-centred future of work' stated that the Asia-Pacific region lost about 22 million jobs in 2022. ILO Director-General Gilbert F. Houngbo said the decrease in wages is placing millions of workers in a dire situation. "Income inequality and poverty will rise if the purchasing power of the lowest paid is not maintained," he warned.

What does the data show?

The ILO report on wages looked at the real and nominal wages of employees. The word "wage", was defined as the total gross remuneration including regular bonuses received by employees during a specified period for time (monthly for the report) worked as well as for time not worked, such as paid annual leave and paid sick leave. The nominal wage data shows the adjusted figures after accounting for consumer price inflation while real wage growth refers to the year-on-year change in real average monthly wages of all employees. "In each edition of the Global Wage Report the objective is to collect wage data from as many countries and territories (about 190) which are then grouped into five separate regions," the ILO said on the methodology of its report.

In India, the nominal wages rose to ₹17,017 per month in 2021 from ₹4,398 in 2006. The data was taken from the Government of India's Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. But when inflation is factored in, the real wage growth in India plunged to -0.2% in 2021 from 9.3% in 2006. In China, the growth decreased from 5.6% in 2019 to 2% in 2022. In Pakistan, the growth is -3.8%. Figures of Sri Lanka were not available. The negative growth in India started after the pandemic.

The report said the increasing cost of living has the greatest impact on lower-income earners and their households as they have to spend most of their disposable income on essential goods and services, which generally experience greater price increases than non-essential items.

Is inequality rising?

At the Asia-Pacific level, only the jobs in high-skill occupations saw a recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, which is true across all subregions. The ILO said it is raising concerns about increased inequality. While there is an employment gain of 1.6% among high-skill workers between 2019 and 2021, there is no such substantial gain among low-to-medium-skill workers. Among the G-20 countries, the report noted a significant gap in the average level of real wages between advanced G-20 countries and emerging G-20 countries such as India. It is on the level of about $4,000 per month in advanced economies and about $1,800 per month in emerging economies.

What are the ILO's remedies?

The report suggests a set of policy options and responses to the cost-of-living crisis. Citing studies, the report said that 75 to 95 million people were pushed into extreme poverty during COVID-19. It said the bargaining process for future nominal wage adjustments should embrace a sufficiently large but prudent price expectation. "This could contribute to safeguarding the standard of living of households – particularly low-income households – against unexpected future inflation hikes, while avoiding an undesirable wage-inflation spiral," it said. The report said that there is a need to strengthen labour market institutions and wage policies. The ILO states that the creation of decent formal wage employment is a prerequisite for a more equitable distribution of wages and income, and is a key contributor to equitable and sustainable wage growth. It wants governments to focus on gender pay gap as when women leave the labour market, they are less likely to return than men. Most importantly, the report says that a multilateral approach is the key to solving the crises around us. There is an urgent need to address the negative effects of climate change; increasing inequalities; the poverty, discrimination, violence and exclusion endured by millions of people, including the discrimination that women and girls continue to suffer in many parts of the world; the lack of vaccines and access to adequate sanitation and essential healthcare for all; and the growing digital divide between poor and wealthier countries.

THE GIST

- The 'Global Wage Report 2022-2023: The Impact of inflation and COVID-19 on wages and purchasing power' discuss the twin crises which created a "striking fall" in real monthly wages around the globe. Another report, the 'Asia-Pacific Employment and Social Outlook 2022: Rethinking sectoral strategies for a human-centred future of work' stated that the Asia-Pacific region lost about 22 million jobs in 2022.
- There has been a significant gap in the average level of real wages between advanced G-20 countries and emerging G-20 countries such as India.
- The ILO states that the creation of decent formal wage employment is a prerequisite for a more equitable distribution of wages and income, and is a key contributor to equitable and sustainable wage growth.

Why are fisherfolk protesting the Vizhinjam port project?

Is the construction of the seaport aggravating coastal erosion along the Thiruvananthapuram shoreline? What has been the Kerala government's response? What is the significance of the port?

Dhinesh Kallungal

The story so far:

Vizhinjam has been on the boil for the past four months with protesters mainly fisherfolk and their families laying siege to the under-construction Vizhinjam port. The protestors led by the Latin Archdiocese have been demanding the halting of the construction work of the port by Adani Vizhinjam Port Private Limited.

What lies at the heart of the protests?

According to protesters, the port work has aggravated the coastal erosion along the coast of Thiruvananthapuram. They have raised seven demands which include, a scientific study to assess the impact of the port work on the shoreline after stopping the construction of the port. Further, around 300 families along the coastline were shifted to relief camps after their houses were destroyed due to high-intensity coastal erosion. The protesters demand a comprehensive rehabilitation package for the fisherfolk in the region, an assured minimum wage when the sea turns rough due to inclement weather, and subsidised kerosene for boats.

Has it aggravated coastal erosion?

All types of construction work along a coast, aggravate sea erosion (loss of beach) and accretion (gain of beach). Any structure – be it groyne, seawall, or breakwater – intensifies erosion on one side and accretion on the other. Although coastal erosion is dominant in all coastal districts of Kerala, it is more severe along the coastline of Thiruvananthapuram. A study conducted by the National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Society of Integrated Coastal Management, and the Ministry of Environment and Forest had noted that the erosion is minimum at Thrissur (1.5 %) and maximum at Thiruvananthapuram (23%), even before the port construction. In Kerala's case, the seasonal shoreline changes would be more severe during monsoon months due to the high-energy short storm waves that lash the coast almost in a perpendicular position moving the sand offshore. The latest report of the expert committee appointed by the National Green Tribunal and Shoreline Monitoring Cell observed that erosion in spots such as Valiyathura, Shanghumugham, and Punthura remained the same as before and after the commencement of the port construction (December 2015). However, during the October 2020-September 2021 period, spots like Kochuveli and Cheriyathura to the north of Valiyathura suffered erosion. The report noted that the relatively high number of cyclones formed over the Arabian sea after cyclone Ockhi in 2017 was the main reason for the recent erosion and accretion and that the impact of the port activity on either side of the coast had less significance.

What is the government's stance?

The Kerala Government made it clear that since the coastal erosion is due to climate change as reported by various agencies, the demand for stopping the port construction cannot be conceded. Officials argue that the Vizhinjam seaport is being constructed inside a natural sediment cell which is a pocket-like area in which interruptions to the movement of sand along the coast do not significantly affect the adjacent coastline.

Is the Vizhinjam project important?

Located on the southern tip of the Indian Peninsula, just 10 nautical miles from the major international sea route and east-west shipping axis, and with a natural water depth of more than 20m within a nautical mile from the coast, the Vizhinjam port is likely to play a pivotal role in the maritime development of the country and Kerala. The port is expected to leverage the growth of minor ports in Kerala and other regional ports, creating thousands of employment opportunities.

THE GIST

- Vizhinjam has been on the boil for the past four months with protesters mainly fisherfolk and their families laying siege to the under-construction Vizhinjam port.
- The protestors have raised seven demands which include, a scientific study to assess the impact of the port work on the shoreline after stopping the construction of the port.
- The port is expected to leverage the growth of minor ports in Kerala and other regional ports, creating thousands of employment opportunities.

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Bommai promises full support of govt. for Aero India 2023

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has promised complete support of the State government for hosting the 14th edition of Aero India which is to be held at Air Force Station, Yelahanka, from February 13 to 17.

The 14th edition of Aero India will be held at Air Force Station, Yelahanka, from February 13 to 17. FILE PHOTO

Meets Central team

Mr. Bommai who met a Ministry of Defence team along with HAL officials thanked the Prime Minister and the Defence Minister for selecting Bengaluru as the venue for Aero India 2023 and promised complete support of the host State to make this edition the largest ever since its inception.

The Ministry of Defence team led by Anurag Bajpai, Joint Secretary (DIP) and Cdr. Achal Malhotra, CEO, Defence Exhibition Organisation along with C.B. Ananthakrishnan, CMD, HAL met the Chief Minister.

Assessment of site

]The Ministry of Defence team also took an on-site assessment at the Air Force Station and has fast-tracked all planning and execution of the mega event which will showcase India's resolve to achieve self-reliance in Aerospace and Defence.

HAL which is the nodal organization for the airshow said that it has constituted its teams and are ready to interact with the nodal teams of the State government and the Air Force to ensure seamless execution of Aero India 2023 which has multiple stakeholders.

UGC chairman: Continue rapid implementation of NEP-2020 in Karnataka

He says the policy was formulated two years ago to meet challenges across the globe, and Karnataka has realised that implementing it was the only way to meet aspirations of the young

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

M. Jagadesh Kumar, chairman of University Grant Commission (UGC), lauded the National Education Policy - 2020 and its implementation in Karnataka, and called upon all universities in the State to "continue the rapid implementation of NEP-2020" and added that with that Karnataka will become a role model for the rest of the country.

Delivering the convocation address on Monday at Bangalore University's 57th annual convocation in the city on Monday, he said the NEP was formulated two years ago, to meet challenges across the globe and Karnataka has realised implementing NEP was the only way to meet the aspirations of the young.

'Student centric'

"For far too long, our higher education system has remained too rigidly teacher centric. We want to turn that into student centric. Today's educational systems do not recognise the diversity of the cognitive abilities of our students. Therefore, the NEP has built on five pillars like access, equity, quality, affordability and accountability," he said.

"The objective of education is not to mould you this way or that. It is to provide you an opportunity for self discovery. NEP will transform you into creative and innovative individuals. Multidisciplinary education and holistic education is top priority of NEP," he said, adding students should learn the art of questioning.

"Students want to be creative, it starts with questioning. You should learn the art of questioning like Nachiketha. Students should set their goals very high and take calculated risks in their lives. There may be some failures, but you should not be deterred. You should have perseverance like Bhagiratha," he said.

Honorary doctorates were conferred upon veteran actor, director and producer Dwarakeesh, Amarnath Gowda, attorney, counsellor of law and president, Association of Kannada Kootas of America (AKKA), and T. Anil Kumar, artist, painter, and photographer.

T. Anil Kumar, Bungle Shama Rao Dwarakanath, and Amaranath Gowda with the honorary doctorates from Bangalore University on Monday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

The gold medal winners of Bangalore University after the convocation ceremony on Monday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

As topper gives birth, spouse receives medals on her behalf

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Keerti Neginhal, a topper of the university who won eight gold medals in MA Kannada, was unable to participate in the convocation, as she was delivered of a baby, and her husband Basavaraj Gundlur received the gold medals on her behalf.

"My wife has achieved two milestones. She gave birth to a baby girl and bagged eight medals, which I proudly received on behalf of her," he told *The Hindu*.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I RAJESH Hari residing at No.1404, 25th main, BSK 2nd Stage, Bangalore 560070 have changed my name to Iyer Rajesh Hari vide Affidavit dated 05/12/2022 before Notary N. Nagappa Bangalore.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I NO 7781938Y Hav(MP) Ashok Kumar Yadav , Resident of Vill Sauna (Anare) Saidpur Dist– Ghazipur (UP) , want to change my Spouse name to PRAMILA YADAV from PRAMILA in my Service records vide affidavit no 67AE676315 Dated 30–JUL–2022

I, SHAILAJA Mahant W/o Shivaraj Basavanneppa Doddannavar R/at No.17, BBMP 880, 5th Cross, Abbaih Reddy Layout, Kaggadasapura, C.V.Raman Nagar, Bengaluru-560093 have changed my name to Shailaja Virupakshappa Mahant vide Affidavit dated 03.12.2022 sowrn before Notary A.R.Muneer Ahmed, Bengaluru.

I, BHARATH Bhushan Venkatachalapathi, S/O. Venkatachalapathi Narayanappa, R/O. 206,Pearl Garden Apt, Duo Hights Lyt, Begur, Blr–68, have changed name To Bharat Venkatachala vide afdvt dtd 29/11/22

I, ASHWINI Tungal is legally wedded spouse of No.10490218W Rank: Hav Name: Siddappa Hidkal presently residing at Bekkeri (Vill & PO), Raibag (Teh), Belgaum (Dist), Karnataka-591317 that have declared to change my name from Ashwini Tungal to Ashwini Hidkal vide Affidavit dated 03.11.2022 before Sivakumara M N, Advocate & Notary Public, RT Nagar, Bangalore.

I, Naveen Sharanappa Bommanahalli alias S Naveen S/o Sharanappa Bommanahalli, R/o: No 26, Vinayaka Nilaya, Rudset Road, Driver's Colony, Gandhi Nagar, Dharwad, Karnataka 580004 have changed my name to Naveen Bommanahalli for all purposes in future.

I PUSHPANJALI Singh Residing At Flat No.5152, Sobha Ruby, Block 5, Nagasandra, Tumkur Road, Bangalore 560073 have changed my minor daughter's name from Sreya Singh to Vanya Singh vide Affidavit dated 05/12/2022 before Notary K.V.Mani Bangalore

I, PRIYA Vrata S/o Mohan Lal, R/at #008, Block 2, Vivek Paradise, 2nd Cross, Chowdeshwari Temple Road, Byrasandra, C V Raman Nagar, Bengaluru-560093 have changed my name from Priya Vrata to Priyavrat vide affidavit dated 03-12-2022 before Notary A.R. Muneer Ahmed, B'luru.

I, ARUNA Dacosta Cordeiro Also called as Aruna Geraldine Cordeiro Dacosta W/o Gambetta Camilo Dacosta R/o Seshadri Residency 203, 3rd Floor, 20 Munireddy Layout, Chikka Banaswadi, Kalyananagar, Bangalore-560043 have changed my name to Aruna Dacosta vide affidavit dt: 05-12-2022 before Notary A.R. Muneer Ahmed, B'luru.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

I, SHRUTI JAIN, R/at 3A Near Another Sky, Bang – 43 have changed my name from SHRUTI JOSHI to SHRUTI JAIN for all future purposes by affidavit dated 05-12-2022, Sworn before the Notary SESHAGIRI, Bang – 43

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE PRL. SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE & JMFC AT ANEKAL
O.S. No.538/2019
BETWEEN: 1. Mr. Vasu, S/o A.M.Vittal, aged about 58 years, R/at No.6602, Langlier, BLVD, Montreal, Quebec-HIMZC4. **2. A.V. Mohan Raj,** S/o A.M.Vittal, aged about 55 years, R/at HAYS BLVD, Unit 12 Oak Ville, Ontario, L6H911, Cannada. Plaintiffs 1 and 2 are Represented by their GPA Holder, **3. C.R. Lokesh,** S/o Late C.R.Ramaiah, aged about 45 years, R/at No.28, 5th Cross, Srirampuram, Bangalore-560021. ... **Plaintiffs**
AND: 1. Sri. A.M. Vittal, S/o Late A.R. Muniswamy Mudaliar, aged about 84 years, R/at No.1957, 1st Floor, 8th Main Road, E Block, 2nd Stage, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560010. **2. Sri. A.V. Janardhan,** S/o A.M.Vittal, aged about 51 years, R/at Shophie School, Strasses-15, 63225 Langen/Hesses, Germany. **3. Madhav Reddy,** Partener of Ambika Coaters, Having registered office at No.111. F-1, 2nd phase, Bommasandra Industrial Area, Hosur Main Road, Bangalore-560 099. **4. The South Indian Bank Limited,** Rep by Naveen John .C Manager, Brigade Road Branch, Bangalore. ... **Defendants**
SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT No.2
2. Sri. A.V. Janardhan, S/o AM Vittal, aged about 51 years, R/at No.1957, 1st Floor, 8th Main Road, E Block, 2nd Stage, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560010.
Whereas the plaintiff has filed the above suit for partition against you and defendant No.1 others for praying their separate possession of ½ share arraigning defendants 3 and 4 in view of their interest over suit schedule properties. Therefore, you are hereby summoned to appear before Principal Senior Civil Judge and JMFC at Anekal on **12-01-2023** at 11.00 AM either in person or by a pleader duly instructed and able to answer all material questions relating to the above original suit.
Take notice that in default of your appearance on the day mentioned the above original suit will be heard and decided ex-parte.
Given under my hand and seal of the court on this 30-11-2022.
By order of the Court, Chief Ministerial Officer, Senior Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Anekal.
Advocates for Plaintiffs:
Smt.Sona Vakkund, Kshama Nargund & N.Priya,
Medha, 247, 53rd Cross, 4th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560010.

IN THE COURT OF THE ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE MAYOHALL UNIT AT BANGALORE (CCH-20)
O.S. NO. 26486/2020
Between
ICICI Bank Limited,
Having its Registered office at Land Mark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara- 390 007 and having its Corporate office at ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai - 400 051 and its branch office at Mystree Centre, 4/10, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore - 560 068
...Plaintiff
And
Mr. Syed Azeem Ur Rehman
...Defendant
SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT
To,
Mr. Syed Azeem Ur Rehman
S/o Mr. Syed Ataur Rahman
No. 33/1, 16th Cross, Sagayapuram, 2nd Floor, Frazer Town, Bangalore-560 005
WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted above said suit against you for recovery of **Rs. 5,51,076/- (Rupees Five Lakh Fifty One Thousand and Seventy Six Only)** together with interest @ 24% p.a., cost of the suit and to grant such other or further order relief. The above mentioned Defendant hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble Court CCH - 20 in person or through a Counsel who can able to answer the claim made against you on 10-1-2023 at 11.00 a.m. failing which the suit is heard and disposed ex-parte.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Hon'ble Court on this 22/11/2022.
By Order of the Hon'ble Court
Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court,
Mayohall Unit, Bangalore
ADVOCATE FOR PLAINTIFF
SA Associates,
No.10, 7th Cross,
Victoria Layout,
Bangalore - 560 047

Narayana Nethralaya to open cash-counter-free eye hospital

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Narayana Nethralaya, a city-based eye hospital, is set to open a cash-counter-free eye hospital in Tumakuru. All one needs to avail treatment here is a BPL card.

The five-storey hospital, spread across 40,000 sqft. has been named 'Narayana Devalaya'. Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and Siddaganga Mutt seer Siddalinga Swamy will inaugurate the hospital on December 7.

Built under the aegis of Narayana Nethralaya Eye Foundation, this hospital is located on the Bengaluru-Tumakuru highway in Karnataka.

The hospital will provide cataract services for BPL adults and refraction error services and free glasses for children.

"With three ultra modern cataract operation theatres, this hospital has a capacity to perform 50,000 cataract surgeries every year. All surgeries will be performed by experienced cataract surgeons using the latest technique," K. Bhujang Shetty, chairman and managing director of Narayana Nethralaya, told *The Hindu* on Monday.

"Nearly 80% of reversible blindness in adults over the age of 50 in India is caused by cataracts. Continued vision loss from untreated cataracts can affect day-to-day living and quality of life for the elderly, especially from financially weaker sections," he said.

Pointing out that refractive errors are the most common cause of vision problems in children, the doctor said: "Blurred vision from uncorrected refractive errors can increase difficulty in performing vision-related tasks and impact their quality of life. Since many children from rural areas do not have access to or cannot afford spectacles for vision correction, they can walk into Narayana Devalaya and avail of spectacles, free of cost."

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and Siddaganga Mutt seer Siddalinga Swamy will inaugurate the hospital at Tumakuru on December 7.

Widening Padarayanapura road: Govt set to acquire properties at ₹140 crore

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government is set to acquire 140 private properties at a cost of ₹140 crore for the widening of of 1.8 km stretch of Padarayanpura main road.

Housing Minister V. Somanna told reporters here on Monday that the widening is part of upgrading infrastructure that will also help businesses. He said 1.63 lakh sqft will have to acquired, and that ₹140 crore will be paid as compensation as per a Supreme Court order.

In all 292 properties including government properties will be acquired. Mr. Somanna said as part of the project, an underpass will be built in police grounds and is expected to cost ₹600 crore.

"Now the whole project will cost ₹250 crore. The project proposal will be placed before Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai for approval."

Man held for killing bedridden wife

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Talaghattapura police on Monday arrested a 60-year-old security guard who allegedly killed his bedridden wife by drowning her in the flooded cellar of an underconstruction apartment on Sunday.

The accused, Shankarappa, was working as watchman in an underconstruction building and living with his family, comprising his wife and two children in the same building. According to the police, Shankarappa's wife, Shivamma, 50, had a paralytic attack and was bedridden for the last two years.

As per his plan, he waited for his daughter to go to work and asked the son to go out and play. As soon as the son went out, he carried the bedridden Shivamma to the cellar and dumped her to make it look like accidental death, said the police.

However his son who quickly returned home saw him dumping Shivamma and rushed to a nearby mechanic shop to seek help.

By the time the people came and pulled out Shivamma, she breathed her last. Based on the complaint, the police rushed to the spot and detained Shankarappa, who later confessed to the crime.

The accused has been booked for murder and taken into custody.

CACHE

AFP

The enigma of arrival: how Ambedkar completed his educational journey

Based on documents accessed from the British Library in the heart of London, gaps in Ambedkar's academic history have been filled particularly the completion of his PhD. It also shows us the impossibly challenging conditions he had to reckon with

A.R. Venkatachalapathy

Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar passed away on December 6, 1956. In this article dated April 14, 2018, A.R. Venkatachalapathy elaborates on Ambedkar's educational journey and how he came to complete it.

B.R. Ambedkar's educational journey began in impossibly challenging conditions. With the help of a modest scholarship granted by the Maharaja of Baroda, he joined Columbia University, New York, in July 1913. After completing his M.A., he went on to write a thesis that ultimately led to the conferment of a PhD degree. In mid-1916, he was admitted to Grays' Inn in London to appear for the bar. When his scholarship ended in 1917, he was forced to return to India.

Some answers

All this has been well documented by his biographer Dhananjay Keer. But several details remain incomplete. What was the exact date on which he left India? When did he arrive in America? How did he travel to London? Based on documents newly accessed in the British Library, we can now fill in the gaps.

The First World War which was raging at the time forms the backdrop for the paper trail. On May 17, 1916, Ambedkar addressed two letters to the British Consul in New York, from Livingston Hall, Columbia University. He wanted a passport to go to London. Apparently, he had made enquiries at the British consulate, through a friend, regarding the requirements. New war-time regulations were in force and a passport could not be issued without permission from the India Office in London. Ambedkar indicated that he intended to leave America on June 3, 1917 by S.S. St. Paul. This gave him barely two weeks time to complete the formalities. He was in a hurry because he wanted "to meet certain professors of the English Universities before they disperse[d] for the summer vacation". To this letter he added a postscript: if the time was too short for processing his application he was willing to pay for a cabled reply from London.

Ambedkar appended a letter of application giving "the required personal information": "My full name is Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, son of Ramji Maloji Ambedkar." This statement was followed by the touching sentence, "I am sorry I do not know either the date or place of birth of my father." He was "born at Mahow (Malwa, India) on the 14th April 1891" but "had lived and been educated in the city of Bombay". Stating that he had come to America on a scholarship from the State of Baroda, he provided details of his first travels overseas. Ambedkar had taken S.S. Sardinia on the Rubattino Line from Bombay on June 15, 1913. At Naples he had boarded S.S. Ancona and arrived at New York on July 22, 1913. Ambedkar further stated that he had been a post-graduate student at Columbia University and that he would be finishing "all requirements for the Ph.D. degree except my thesis which is a very essential part thereof" by the end of June 1916. He had to visit the British Museum and other libraries in England "as the source materials for the completion of [his] thesis were to be found only in England", and added that the Baroda State had provided him both the means and permission to study in London for a year.

This letter, written in a steady hand and in the impeccable English that we have come to associate with Ambedkar, may probably be the earliest surviving autobiographical note penned by him. At the time of writing these letters he was barely 25.

How these letters came to the British Library is happenstance.

It was the war that occasioned such correspondence in the first place. The British Consul General, after making enquiries with the embassy in Washington, had promptly forwarded Ambedkar's application to the Foreign Office in London on May 22. It went with a copy of his certificate of identity issued at the time of Ambedkar's departure to America, by the British Resident at Baroda on June 4, 1913. The certificate gave his name as "Bhimrao alias Brimvran Ambedkar" and other details that we are familiar with now.

Evidently, the consular office did not cable London, as requested by Ambedkar. Therefore, it was not until June 8 that the Under Secretary of State of the Foreign Office in turn forwarded it to the India Office in London. On June 11, the India Office was still deliberating whether there was "any objection to the Consul giving him a passport endorsed for the journey to England" or if only an emergency certificate could be issued. By this time, however, it had come to the notice of another official that "this man sailed from New York by SS New York on 11/6" and he asked to "keep these papers pending till I find out from him how he got his passport."

Even by the first week of July the India Office was still wondering how Ambedkar had arrived in England "when his case was still under discussion here."

Where it ends

Whatever the circumstances, Ambedkar had arrived at Liverpool where he had been instructed to call at Scotland Yard to collect his papers. As of June 24, he had still not done that. The paper trail ends here with a final note in the file: "I am directed to inform you that the Indian in question has since arrived in England and no action in the matter appears now to be called for."

When the Consul General in New York had forwarded Ambedkar's application and in turn the Foreign Office had forwarded it to the India Office, a specific request had been made for the "eventual return" of the originals. Given how his application had been processed, the papers were never sent back. If they had, Ambedkar's letters are not likely to have survived, for consular offices do not preserve passport applications for long. After Independence, the India Office was abolished and all its records were transferred to the British Library, now located adjacent to St. Pancras railway station in the heart of London.

A.R. Venkatachalapathy is a historian and Tamil writer

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

On December 6, 1998, Hugo Chavez became the President of Venezuela for the first time. A quiz on the deceased Latin American strongman

Joan Sony Cherian

QUESTION 1

One of the most famous speeches of Hugo Chavez, is a short televised message of brotherhood, hope and promise. The speech titled 'por ahora' (for now) was delivered by Chavez in what context?

QUESTION 2

Mr. Chavez's political ideology and administration is fashioned after this 19th century statesman who fought for Latin America's independence.

QUESTION 3

Hugo Chavez established his own political party, the Movement of the Fifth Republic, in 1994.
What does the fifth republic refer to?
The party was later dissolved and merged into another larger party. Name it.

QUESTION 4

"The devil came here yesterday... it smells of sulphur still today," said Chavez in an address to the United Nations General Assembly in 2006. Who is he referring to as the 'devil'?

QUESTION 5

The 2002 coup against President Chavez was captured in this film by an Irish film crew. Name the documentary.

QUESTION 6

The 'pink tide' refers to the movement of Latin American countries to left-leaning governments/ideologies in the beginning of the 21st century. According to current Vice President of Argentina Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner, the three musketeers of the pink tide were Hugo Chavez and two of his contemporaries. Name the two and their countries.

What event in 2005 is Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez and Argentine football legend Diego Maradona rallying against here? REUTERS

Questions (abridged) and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Apart from Mandela and Jacob Zuma, this former prisoner went on to become President of South Africa. **Ans: Kgalema Motlanthe**
2. Mandela used to recite this poem while in prison to other inmates. **Ans: *Invictus* by William Ernest Henley**
3. This paramilitary organisation was founded by Mandela. **Ans: uMkhonto we Sizwe**
4. Mandela was talking about this event when he said "It was the first time that a country had come from another continent not to take something away, but to help Africans to achieve their freedom". **Ans: The Cuban intervention in Angola defeating the Apartheid regime supported forces**
5. Mandela appointed this person as chairman of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. **Ans: Bishop Desmond Tutu**
Visual: The Indonesian art form associated with Madiba shirts. **Ans: Batik**
Early Birds: Jagadish. S| Shoury Patil| R.Ashwin Ratna| Shivam jha

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

"Good morning, sir".

"Good morning".

"Mr. K. S. Manian of Dindigul wants to know the pronunciation of 'gynaecology', sir".

"It is pronounced 'gainicology'. 'Gaini' rhymes with 'tiny' and 'cology' is pronounced the same way it is pronounced in 'psychology'. The 'g' is pronounced like the 'g' in 'get' and 'go'. The stress is on the third syllable".

"Mr. K. Muniramiah of Chandragiri wants to know the difference between 'relatives' and 'relations', sir".

"They mean the same. There are some who believe that 'relation' connotes closer relationship and 'relative' rather a distant one. But this distinction is hardly ever maintained these days".

"Sir, Mr. K. Sharath Babu of Madanapalle wants to know which of the following is correct (a) He was appointed as Governor; (b) He was appointed Governor".

" 'He was appointed Governor' is correct.

She has been appointed Principal of the local college".

"Mr. A. Manmadha Rao of Srikakulam wants to know the meaning of the idiom 'tongue in cheek', sir".

"You speak with your tongue in your cheek when you do not mean what you say or say the opposite of what you mean.

When I said to him that Mr. Rao called him a fine writer, he said: 'Are you sure that he was not speaking with his tongue in his cheek?' I told him that he spoke straight from the heart.

To speak with the 'tongue in the cheek' is to speak insincerely.

When she said he was honest, she was speaking with the tongue in her cheek ".

"Sir, are the words 'catamaran' and 'cashewnut' of Indian origin?"

" 'Catamaran' is from Tamil 'kattumarum'. You know what it means. The dictionary defines it as 'a narrow boat propelled by sails'. It entered the language at the close of the 17th century. Now 'catamaran' also means 'a quarrelsome woman'. It acquired this meaning in the 1830s. 'Cashew' is not from any Indian language. It is from the Portuguese 'caju' which itself is from Tupi 'caju'. Tupi is the language spoken by a group of South American tribes living in Brazil. The word for 'cashewnut' is 'kaju' in several Indian languages. The cashew is native to the tropics of Central and South America. It was taken to East Africa and India by Portuguese missionaries in the fifteenth century. In Malayalam, cashewnut is called 'parangi andi', the Portuguese nut. 'Parangi' is from 'Feringee', a term used to refer to the Portuguese in India. It is also used as a general term for Europeans. St Thomas's Mount in Madras is called 'Parangi Malai'. Let's stop here for the day. Goodbye".

"Thank you, sir. Goodbye".

Word of the day

Pugnacious:
tough and callous by virtue of experience; ready and able to resort to force or violence

Synonyms:
hard-bitten, hard-boiled

Usage:
The pugnacious professor is very strict with his students

Pronunciation: bit.ly/pugnaciouspro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /pʌgˈneɪʃəs/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Eleven RO plants costing ₹15-20L each demolished for road widening

At 33 places where the RO plants were installed, the borewells have dried up, rendering them useless while in six places, the plants are not working due to lack of upkeep

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

In what smacks of lack of coordination between the implementing agency and the civic agency resulting in wasteful expenditure, it has come to light that as many as 11 reverse osmosis (RO) plants in Bengaluru meant for supplying potable water to underprivileged communities have been demolished for road widening works. Most of these had been installed at a cost between ₹10 lakh and ₹20 lakh.

The demolished plants are among 50 in Bengaluru that have become dysfunctional for various reasons, another indication of lack of focus on maintenance of installed units.

At 33 places where RO plants were installed, the borewells have dried up, rendering the plants useless while in six places, the RO plants are not working due to lack of upkeep.

In 15 more places, only buildings have come up without RO machinery being installed.

As many as three plants have been shown but the units are non-existent. All included, RO plants that have not helped the public constitute about 27% of the total 255 RO plants shown in the books.

Water ATM installed by BBMP on Bull temple road in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

According to details provided by the Panchayat Raj Engineering division to the Joint House Committee – which is probing the illegalities in the installation of RO plants – the demolished RO plants in Bengaluru were in Vajarahalli, Thalghattapura, Kaveripura, Maruthinagar, Pantharpalya, Austin Town and Kalyananagar across Yeshwanthpura, Govindarajanagar, and Shanthi Nagar Assembly constituencies.

Most demolitions

Interestingly, according to the data, the highest number of RO demolition is in Govindarajanagar constituency, reporting six out of 11 ROs demolished in the city. They have all been reported from Panchasheela Nagar, coming under ward number 103 Kaveripura, in Govindarajanagar Assembly constituency.

The constituency is represented by Housing Minister V. Somanna. The RO plants – one each in Vajarahalli and Thalghattapura – that were demolished come under the Yeshwanthpura constituency represented by Cooperation Minister S.T. Somashekar.

Government sources aware of the development said even though RR number in the power bill for the plants has been to establish that all plants are functional, RR numbers have been provided only for 110 units, raising suspicion. "In many cases frivolous reasons have been provided, including that of a power connection sans power bill."

Governor to present Nadoja Award for three

The Hindu Bureau
KALABURAGI

Cardiologist and director of Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research C.N. Manjunath, writer Krishnappa G. and social activist and businessman S. Shadakshari have been selected for the Nadoja Award given by Kannada University in Hampi.

The dignitaries will be honoured with the award by Governor Thawarchand Gehlot at the convocation scheduled on Thursday.

Home Guards and Civil Defence
Rededicates itself to the safety and welfare of citizens of India on its
60th Raising Day
6th December, 2022
Serve The Nation
Join Home Guards & Civil Defence

Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyana at District Home Guards Office

Civil Defence Volunteers present at Har Ghar Tiranga Abhiyana Programme

Inspired by the Motto of "Sarva Bhoota Hite Ratah" and "Nishkam Seva"
Director General of Police and Commandant General Home Guards, Director Civil Defence, Director General Fire and Emergency Services, Director General SDRF, Officers and Staff
As is enshrined in our Constitution, to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.
karnataka information
Department of Information and Public Relations

Sri Thaawarchand Gehlot
Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka

DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH EMPOWERMENT & SPORTS

Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Presentation of Ekalavya, Lifetime Achievement, Karnataka Kreedarathna Award for the year 2021 and Kreeda Poshak Award for the year 2022-23 and cash Reward to Medal winning Sportspersons of 36th National Games

Venue : Raj Bhavan, Bangalore Date : 06.12.2022, 11.00 AM

Presentation of Awards:
Sri Thaawarchand Gehlot
Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka

Chief Guest:
Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Karnataka

Special Invitees:
Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman
Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Government of India

Sri M. Rajeev Chandrashekar
Hon'ble Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India

Release of Sadhana Sanchike:
Sri K.C. Narayanagowda
Hon'ble Minister of Sericulture, Youth Empowerment and Sports

Presided by:
Sri Rizwan Arshad
Hon'ble Member, Shivajinagar Assembly Constituency

Honorable Leaders of Opposition, Ministers, MLAs, MLCs, Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen of the Boards & all elected Members.

Sri K.C Narayana Gowda, Hon'ble Minister for Youth Empowerment & Sports during the launching of Rural Sports Meet

Dr. Shalini Rajaneesh, IAS
Additional Chief Secretary
Dept., of Youth Empowerment and Sports and Planning

All are Welcome

Sri Mullai Muhilan M.P, IAS
Commissioner
Dept., of Youth Empowerment and Sports

Champions are made not born
Cricket we love you
Rakuten Symphony
OPTIMISM CUP 2022

RAKUTEN SYMPHONY OPTIMISM CUP

Organised by the Deepa Academy for the Differently Abled, in association with Rakuten Symphony - the state-level cricket tournament for the visually challenged will take place on the

BICC Infinity cricket ground, Magadi Road, Bangalore on the 4th, 5th and 6th of December 2022.

We have the honour of hosting three distinguished Chief Guests - Mr.Vijay Bharadwaj, a former player for the Indian team, Padmashree Shekar Nayak, the former Captain of the Visually Challenged Indian Cricket Team and Mr.Narendra Narayan, Managing director

Sure to be an inspiring event and an example of what makes cricket exciting - determination, beating the odds and the heights people go when a community is supporting them. We'd love you to join us in making some noise, supporting our players and most importantly experiencing the sport with our community.

Bengaluru leopards elusive, while cats of Mysuru camera trapped for 2nd time

Back-to-back camera trapping prompts Forest Department to step up its pursuit with six teams, each comprising over five personnel, combing and keeping a close monitoring at Ukkalagere Betta, about 8 km from the town, for its capture

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU/MYSURU

The cage placed atop Ukkalagere Betta in T .Narasipur taluk to capture the elusive leopard.

While two leopards that have created a scare on the outskirts of Bengaluru remained elusive even on Monday, a leopard was camera trapped for the second time at Ukkalagere Betta in T. Narasipur taluk in Mysuru. The first camera trapping was reported on Sunday evening.

The area is close to the villages in T. Narasipur where two persons were killed in leopard attacks in separate incidents.

The back-to-back camera trapping prompted the Forest Department to step up its pursuit with six teams, each comprising over five personnel, combing and keeping a close monitoring at Ukkalagere Betta, about 8 km from the town, for its capture.

Deputy Conservator of Forest Kamala Karikalan, who was with the forest teams at Ukkalagere-Mallikarjunaswamy Betta area, told *The Hindu* that more teams were deployed following the leopard's camera trapping on Monday morning.

On the outskirts of Bengaluru, the Forest department had set up traps for the leopards but they have not been able to trap them.

Of the two leopards, one had been spotted at Turahalli State Forest Area which had also killed a deer and another near Chikkajala on Kempegowda International Airport Road on December 30.

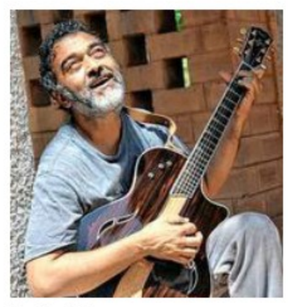
A video has been making rounds showing a leopard attacking two women.

But forest department officials said that fake news is being spread to create panic in Bengaluru and that the video is from a state in North India.

Lucky Ali accuses realtor, IAS wife of encroaching property; couple hits back

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Rohini Sindhuri


Lucky Ali

Following allegations by singer Lucky Ali on social media accusing IAS officer Rohini Sindhuri of helping her husband and realtor Sudhir Reddy of encroaching upon his ancestral property in Yelahanka, Home Minister Araga Jnanendra has now ordered a probe and asked DG & IGP Praveen Sood to submit a report. Ms. Sindhuri has rubbished the charges.

Mr. Lucky Ali, son of Bollywood comedian Mehmood, who is presently in Dubai, in a social media post, alleged that Mr. Sudhir Reddy and his brother Madhusudhan Reddy had been trespassing into his ancestral property, trying to take possession, before a crucial court hearing.

He accused Mr. Sudhir Reddy of taking the help of his IAS officer wife Ms. Rohini Sindhuri and the duo of "misusing the State's resources for personal gain."

Based on a complaint of trespass filed by him, the Yelahanka police registered a FIR against Mr. Madhusudhan Reddy on November 29.

However, he alleged in his post that the police were siding with the "encroachers".

In response, Ms. Sindhuri hit back and issued a statement saying she was "shocked and aghast at the false and baseless allegations" by Mr. Lucky Ali.

"I am unduly being dragged for ulterior motives in a matter I have no role whatsoever.... It has been done with an intention to malign and cause disrepute to me and gain public sympathy," she said, adding that she planned to take legal action.

Responding to the allegations, Mr. Sudhir Reddy said he purchased three acres of land from Mansoor M. Ali, brother of Mr. Lucky Ali and his minor daughter Baby Sabrina in 2012. He claimed this parcel of land was in turn bought by the seller in 2011 and Mr. Lucky Ali was alien to this property.

"As he [Mr. Lucky Ali] in the past also tried to interfere with our possession of the land, we have got a temporary injunction issued against him from interfering in the possession of the land by me in 2016," Mr. Sudhir Reddy said, alleging that recently Mr. Lucky Ali had assaulted his brother Mr. Madhusudhan Reddy, over which they had lodged a complaint.

This FIR was registered on November 30, a day after a FIR was registered against Mr. Madhusudhan Reddy for trespass, acting on a complaint by Mr. Lucky Ali.

30-35 leopards in vicinity of Bengaluru, besides about 40 in Bannerghatta National Park

GUEST COLUMN

Sanjay Gubbi
BENGALURU

A file photo of a leopard in Bannerghatta Biological Park.

Leopards have always existed on the outskirts of Bengaluru due to the availability of rocky outcrops and dry deciduous forests, which are their natural habitats. However, due to expansion of the city, leopard habitats have been converted into human dwellings, industrial hubs, and highways.

But some patches of leopard habitat continue to exist around Bengaluru, thereby leopards continue to survive in both natural and man-made habitats (for example, maize fields).

There could be 30-35 leopards just in the vicinity of Bengaluru city, in addition to the 40 leopards that are found in Bannerghatta National Park.

Extensive use of CCTV cameras and social media are highlighting the presence of leopards bringing them in the media glare. For two days, reports of a chital deer hunted by a leopard are making the rounds in the media and social media. The chital was killed at the edge of B.M. Kaval Reserved Forest. Apart from B.M. Kaval, leopards are naturally found in U.M. Kaval, Roerich Estate, T.K. Falls, Gollahalligudda, and adjoining areas.

These forests are connected to Bannerghatta National Park. Hence, it is natural to find leopards in these areas.

Capturing not enough

Merely capturing leopards and translocating them will not solve the issue, as new leopards may come and occupy the place. We need to build awareness of how to live with leopards. There are a few gated communities, and schools that have accepted and continue to live with leopards.

Either around Bengaluru or in rural parts, it is important that people not panic, and take certain precautions.

Leopards do not attack humans, and people are not their natural prey. They are shy animals, and are equally afraid of people as we are of leopards.

(Sanjay Gubbi is a conservation biologist based in Karnataka. His work focuses on the conservation of large carnivores like tigers and leopards)

SSLC examination timetable

Date and day	Subject
March 31, Friday	**First language:** Kannada, Telugu, Hindi, Marathi, Tamil, Urdu, English, Sanskrit
April 4, Tuesday	Mathematics and Sociology
April 6, Thursday	**Second language:** English, Kannada
April 8, Saturday	Economics, Elements of Electrical Engineering-4, Elements of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering-2, Elements of Mechanical Engineering-4, Engineering Graphics-2, Elements of Electronics Engineering etc.
April 10, Monday	Science, Political Science, Hindustani Music, Carnatic Music
April 12, Wednesday	**Third Language:** Hindi, Kannada, English, Arabic, Persian, Urdu, Sanskrit, Konkani, Tulu **NSQF subjects:** Information Technology, Retail, Automobile, Healthcare, Beauty and Wellness
April 15, Saturday	Social Science

Betting racket busted

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Sleuths of Central Crime Branch on Monday busted a cricket betting racket and arrested three bookies operating through a phone app. Based on a tip-off, a team raided two places in Mahadevapura and arrested the accused and seized ₹10.5 lakh from them.

The police have also seized three mobile phones from the accused and analysing call records to ascertain their network.

Now playing: Rex in a brand new incarnation

Bharath Gowda B.R. and Shalini Kapat
BENGALURU

The Rex in its earlier avatar and (below) the new look of the cinema. K. BHAGYA PRAKASH, BHARATH GOWDA B.R.

Rex on Brigade Road in Bengaluru, which closed in 2018, is back but quite unrecognisably transformed, as South India's first Director's Cut, launched by PVR Cinemas.

It offers what is called a "boutique cinema experience" in uber-luxurious environs and will open for shows on December 9 with a "festival of food and cinema."

The new structure was built ground up, by demolishing and reconstructing the old Rex, said CEO of Prestige Group Muhammad Ali. It has a total of 243 seats and 16-20 shows will be played per day.

The theatre has two movie lounges, namely The Maverick and The Maestro, and five auditoriums with their own thematic design, said Titto, manager in charge of Director's Cut.

Gourmet menu

A range of gourmet menu curated by celebrity chefs will be made available at the push of a button next to the 180-degree recliner chairs.

The ticket price will range from ₹800 to ₹2,200 (food not included).

Mr. Ali recalled the history of Rex. "The uniqueness of Rex cinema comes from the history during the Second World War. Since 1940s it has been screening films all the way till 2018. The whole journey of Rex carries story, nostalgia and emotion which every Bangalurean can relate to."

IISc. student wins award for device to detect drug-resistant tuberculosis

Hemanth C.S.
BENGALURU

A PhD student of Indian Institute of Science, representing India, has been awarded the third prize in the 'Breakthrough of the Year Emerging Talents' category at the Falling Walls Lab and Science Summit held in Berlin recently.

Ayushi Chauhan of the Toley Lab, Chemical Engineering Department, who won the award, is working on developing a minimally instrumented pocket-size assay for rapid and decentralised detection of drug-resistant tuberculosis (DR-TB).

Mr. Chauhan is developing this along with Bhushan J. Toley, Assistant Professor, Chemical Engineering Department, and they said that this tool might provide the much-needed breakthrough in the field of TB diagnostics.

Mr. Chauhan pointed out that two months back, President Droupadi Murmu launched a nationwide movement to eradicate TB from the country by 2025, five years before the UN's target of a TB free world.

"As India accounts for the highest number of TB and DR-TB cases in the world with 70% of the country's population residing in rural areas, eradicating the disease using the current centralised equipment is tough. This new device, if it stands the test of time, can be a promising tool for detecting TB and DR-TB," Mr. Chauhan said.

"While the entire infrastructure required to detect DR-TB could be fit into a small briefcase using our methods, the detection device is only pocket-sized. The detection device is similar to the home pregnancy test or rapid antigen tests used for COVID detection." Prof Toley said. He added that the method is currently in the development stage.

"Analytically, the performance looks good, and we are currently waiting to obtain the human ethical clearance for conducting clinical validation," he added.

Falling Walls Lab and Science Summit is held annually in November to mark the anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	21
Mysuru	30	20
Bengaluru	27	19

Bengaluru Today
29°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be slight cool with mist and haze. Day will be slight warm. Night will be slight cool.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
25°C A pleasant but humid weather to prevail. Few spells of moderate rain & thundershower with gusty winds to occur. Night will be cool.

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Timings
BENGALURU

TUESDAY, DEC. 06		
RISE	06:28	SET 17:53
RISE	16:29	SET 04:42
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 07		
RISE	06:29	SET 17:53
RISE	17:14	SET 05:35
THURSDAY, DEC. 08		
RISE	06:30	SET 17:53
RISE	18:02	SET 06:27

THE HINDU
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that our client intends to purchase
Site No. 136, Old Property No. 79/5, (earlier House List Katha No. 321/321/16), Presently comes under BBMP Limits, measuring East to West 43 feet, North to South 30 feet, in all measuring 1290 Square feet, along with building comprised of Ground floor measuring 850 square feet of built up area, situated at **Panathur Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk** and bounded on the:
East by : Private Property;
West by : Road;
North by : Site No. 135;
South by : Site No. 137;
From its Owner Mr. Ramprakash. P.
Persons having any right over the said property may lodge their objections / claims with documentary evidence within **7 days** from the date of this publication, to the undersigned.

Geetha Halliyal, Advocate
42 High Street, No.775, 2nd Floor,
100 feet Road, Indiranagar,
Bangalore-560038, Ph:9980519476
Bangalore Date: 05.12.2022

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner **SRI.G.N.VENUGOPAL** S/o late Sri.Narayana Swamy, residing at No.851, 6th Ward, Ganigara Street, Devanahalli Town, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District.

Apart from the said Owner, if any other person/s have any manner of right, title and or interest or claim or charge or lien over the Schedule Property or otherwise have any lawful objection/s for sale of the Schedule Property by the aforesaid Owner, they are hereby called upon to file their objection/s in writing, along with the photocopies of documents on which they rely, with the undersigned, within **14 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

Item No.1: All that piece and parcel of the residential land measuring **1 Acre 17 Guntas bearing Sy.No.180/1**, situated at **Sanna Amanikere Village**, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk and bounded as follows:
East by : Land bearing Sy.No.186
West by : Land bearing Sy.Nos.180/2, 174 & 175
North by : Land bearing Sy.Nos.180/2, 179 & 187
South by : Land bearing Sy.Nos.181 & 185

Item No.2: All that piece and parcel of the residential land measuring **1 Acre 10 Guntas bearing Sy.No.180/2**, situated at **Sanna Amanikere Village**, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk and bounded as follows:
East by : Land bearing Sy.No.180/1
West by : Land bearing Sy.No.175
North by : Land bearing Sy.No.176, 178 & 179
South by : Land bearing Sy.No.180/1

Item No.3: All that piece and parcel of the residential land measuring **1 Acre 15 Guntas bearing Sy.No.186/1 (Old No.186)**, situated at **Sanna Amanikere Village**, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk and bounded as follows:
East by : Land bearing Sy.No.189 & 190
West by : Land bearing Sy.No.186/2
North by : Land bearing Sy.No.188
South by : Raja Kaluve & land bearing Sy.No.216

Sd/- Goutam Chand S.F
Advocate
Goutam Associates
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore – 560 004

Proposed tariff revisions of Bescom will benefit most domestic and HT consumers

Neither the hike nor the reduction will reflect in the bills until the beginning of the next financial year, April 2023

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

In the backdrop of Energy Minister V. Sunil Kumar's announcement of providing some relief to electricity consumers in the State by reducing tariffs, sources in the Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (Bescom) revealed that they have asked for reduction of tariffs under certain categories in the proposal they have submitted to the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) for tariff revision for the next financial year beginning in April 2023.

However, even though it is an election year, it is not all good news as the revised tariffs might pinch the pockets of high-consumption customers.

"For certain categories, we have proposed a reduction and for some, we have proposed an increase. We have not completely reduced rates for everyone. We have asked for energy charges to be reduced for both domestic as well as High Tension (HT) consumers, but for those whose consumption is more (more than 100 units for domestic customers), the charges will proportionately go up," said an official of Bescom.

The revised tariffs might pinch the pockets of high-consumption customers in Karnataka.

Bescom officials agreed that reducing the tariff would bring in losses for the company.

However, to bridge the gap between cost to supply and the incoming revenue, it has been proposed that while only commercial and industrial HT consumers were paying cross subsidy surcharges (CSS) before, from next year, even high-consuming domestic consumers should see CSS in their electricity bills.

"Since most HT customers who consume above 1 megawatt of power opt to buy electricity from open sources in the market, we have worked out to bring the rates down to ₹6.6 per unit by cutting down energy charges to bring them back to the grid. If they opt for open sources, then we do not get our expected revenue and it will be difficult to bridge the losses," a senior Bescom official explained.

They further said that with the new rates, buying power from open sources would prove to be a costlier affair due to additional wire charges and such.

Senior officials also said that assessing the current work-from-home situation, the proposal also contains certain revisions like reducing the charges for the slab between 0-50 units as most of these customers are recording zero consumption.

"After COVID-19, many houses are still locked as those who went to their hometowns have not come back. They are paying only fixed charges (FC) and most of them use zero units. This is why we have proposed to reduce the rates here and compensate it with cross subsidy for high consumption customers," they said.

KERC officials also confirmed that they have received proposals from all the Escoms for tariff revision.

"We have received all tariff applications and we have till March 31 to finalise it. We will call for public meetings and hear objections and then finalise the charges. We might receive some Fuel Cost Adjustment Charges (FAC) revision applications in the meantime," said P. Ravikumar, chairman, KERC.

BTP tries traffic signal synchronisation

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) have begun the much-anticipated traffic signal synchronisation in the city from the last one week at feasible junctions. Under this, the green light timing in a series of intersections will be matched in a way to reduce the stop time for motorists.

The BTP officials said that this technique might have brought down the waiting time at signals by at least 30 to 40%. On Monday, the synchronisation was carried out on a 1 kilometre stretch on Outer Ring Road (ORR) between Kamakya junction and Ittamadu junction via Kathriguppe junction in the evening.

In the last few days, synchronisation has also been tried in Jayanagar 4th Block from Geetha junction to Canara Bank junction, on J. C. Road from Minerval Circle to Town Hall, on Rajkumar Road from 10th Cross to the entrance of Rajajinagar.

"We have been trying it (signal synchronisation) and it has given us pretty positive results. Earlier there used to be waiting time at every signal invariably, but now the commuters can pass at least two to three signals on a stretch without waiting. In this stretch on ORR, the average cycle took around two to two and a half minutes to clear, but with this, an average of 70 - 80 seconds are being saved for road users," said Kuldeep Kumar Jain, DCP (Traffic), West division.

Isha Foundation kicks off 'Score for Soil' campaign

Isha Foundation founder Jaggi Vasudev at a press conference in Bengaluru on Monday.AFP

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

On the occasion of World Soil Day, a 'Score for Soil' global campaign was kick-started by Jaggi Vasudev, founder of Isha Foundation, here on Monday.

"This footballing season, I want you to understand, every five seconds we are losing one football field worth of soil; it's becoming a desert. In the last 25 years, we have lost 10% of this planet (soil) to desertification. So as a part of this, let us continue the (save soil) movement and have a ball too," he said, after inaugurating the campaign.

The campaign has called for people to post a video on social media of their best football shot along with the hashtag #ScoreForSoil to support the ongoing Save Soil movement.

"Thousands of Save Soil supporters host over 1,000 awareness drives across the globe to bolster the call to save soil" said a press release from the foundation.

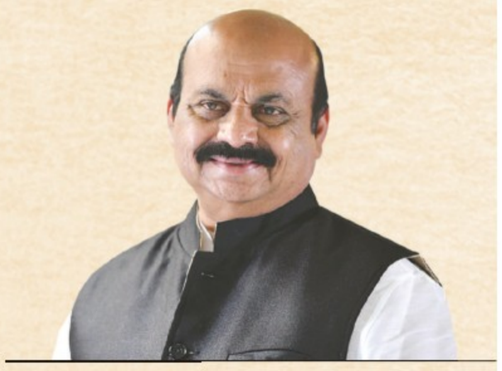
Text & Context
A weekday feature on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and a quiz. In the latest issue (December 6, Tuesday), the following explainer is available:

- The lingering crisis of labour post-pandemic
bit.ly/labourcrisisex

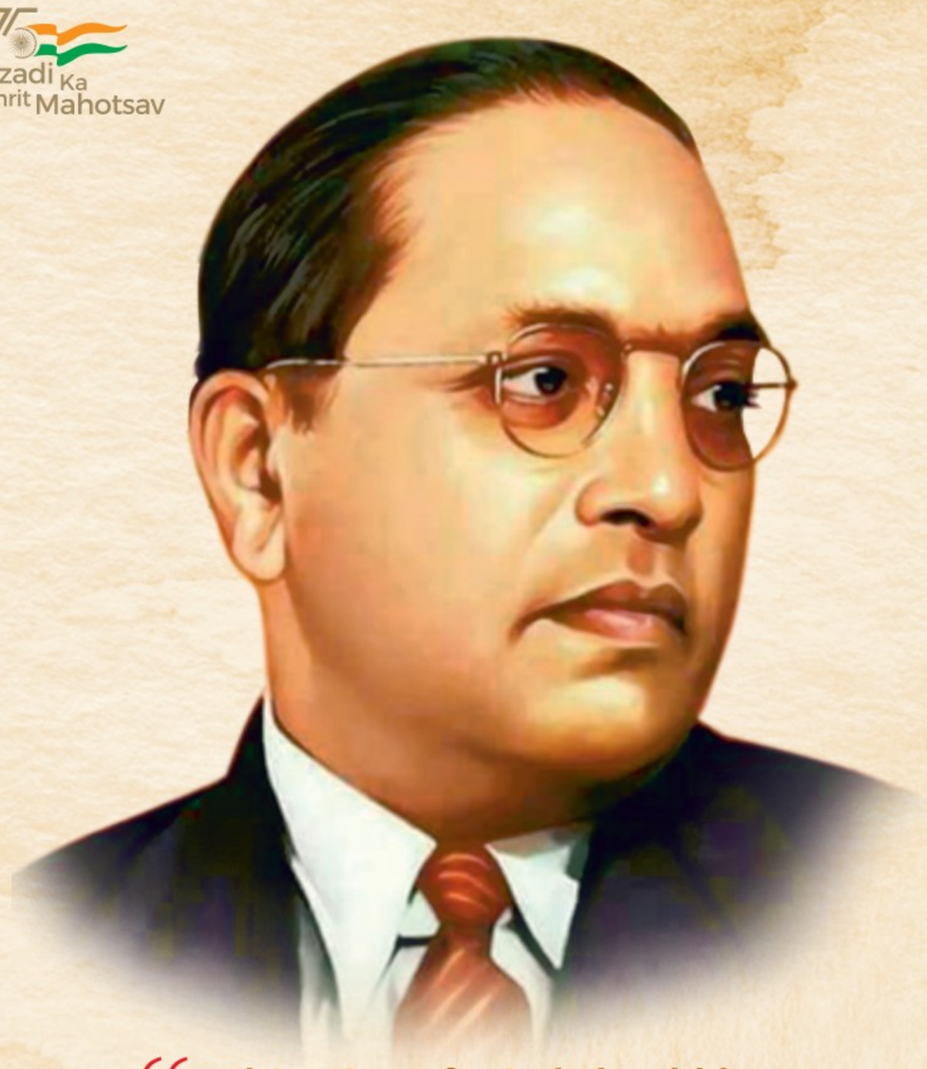
You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access this article. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access the article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Department of Social Welfare



Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister



"Cultivation of mind should be the ultimate aim of human existence"
-Dr. B.R. Ambedkar

Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai, Hon'ble Chief Minister and **Sri Kota Srinivasa Poojary**, Minister for Social Welfare & Backward Classes Welfare participated in the inaugural programme of "Kalyanamithra Integrated SC/ST Helpline".

Great Humanitarian,
Architect of Indian Constitution,
Bharat Ratna

Dr. B.R. AMBEDKAR
(14th April, 1891 - 6th December, 1956)

66th MAHAPARINIRVAN DIVAS

Garlanding and Honouring the Statue of
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
by
Hon'ble Chief Minister of Karnataka
Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai
And
Hon'ble Minister of Social Welfare and Backward Classes Welfare Department
Sri Kota Srinivasa Poojary

Date: 06.12.2022, **Time:** 10:30 AM,
Venue: Front of Vidhana Soudha (East Gate), Bengaluru

Commissioner
Social Welfare Department

"To Protect and respect our varied culture and traditions" is the fundamental duty of every Citizen of the Country.

9482 300 400 | comr.sw@gmail.com | wwww.sw.kar.nic.in | @SWDGoK

Note: Follow Covid-19 protocol. Maintain Social Distance. Wear face Mask.

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INBRIEF

NSUI declares bandh in all universities on December 17

Karnataka's National Students Union of India (NSUI), a student wing of the Congress, has decided to observe a boycott and bandh across all universities and affiliated colleges on December 17, opposing the "apathy" of the State government towards problems faced by students. The student strike would flag issues related to delayed announcement of results by universities of Bengaluru, especially Bengaluru Central University, unorganised and unscientific implementation of the National Education Policy, delay in granting scholarships, free bus pass, among other issues, said NSUI State unit president Kirthi Ganesh. Under the pre-matric, post-matric and merit-cum-means scholarship for the year 2022-23, "not a single rupee has been deposited into accounts," claimed Mr. Ganesh.

BJP govt. diverted ₹7,000 cr. meant for loan waiver: HDK

Former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy on Monday accused the BJP government of diverting about ₹7,000 crore meant for the loan waiver scheme of the farmers, and sought an inquiry into it. "My government had announced the loan waiver scheme for the farmers and had set aside ₹25,000 crore for the same. The loan waiver scheme was given up after the fall of my government," he said during his address as part of the Pancharatna Yatra at Sira in Tumakuru district. He blamed the then B.S. Yediyurappa government for giving up on the scheme.

Bangalore varsity directive on use of hostels by PG students

The Bangalore University has announced that the Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes students, who opt for hostel facilities for a second post-graduate course, should not be admitted to hostels during the academic year of 2022-23. The circular said as per government's order, students who have made use of the hostel facilities at the university would not be allowed to use it again. The BU has accordingly instructed the welfare officers to verify the same before providing admissions to students.

Ten-day winter session estimated to cost ₹37 cr.

Like every year, questions have been raised about escalating costs of holding the Assembly session at Suvarna Soudha in Belagavi; expenditure for logistics and security not included

Rishikesh Bahadur Desai
BELAGAVI

The Suvarna Vidhana Soudha at Belagavi. FILE PHOTO

With the 10-day winter session set to begin in Belagavi from December 19, officials have prepared an estimate amounting to ₹37 crore for conducting the event at Suvarna Soudha.

A senior PWD engineer involved in the preparation of the estimate said this number did not include costs like logistics, security and allowances of officers. "All those payments will be borne by the State government and considered routine expenses," he said.

The estimated cost this time is around 10-12% higher than the last session, officers say. The cost has been steadily increasing, except for the sessions in 2016 and 2017, which were disproportionately high, said officials. Following the high expenses during those two years, an IAS officer from the Finance Department was posted to Belagavi to oversee expenses in 2018. The last session was held in 2021, when the Houses sat only for around 52 hours and passed 14 Bills.

Like every year, questions have been raised about spending close to ₹35 crore on the session and around ₹40 crore on the maintenance of the building, which is used for only 10 days a year.

RTI activist Bheemappa Gadad, who has been tracking the cost of the sessions ever since the first session in Suvarna Soudha, said successive governments have used the building as well as the winter session "only as a tool of identity politics" against the assertion by some Marathi outfits and little else.

However, not all agree with this assessment. Bheemanagouda Paragonda, advocate and youth Congress leader, said people of Belagavi should welcome an exclusive session in Belagavi for issues concerning northern Karnataka. "The condition should be that the government and presiding officers of the two sessions should make sure that 90% of the floor time is spent in discussing issues relevant to the region," he said.

'I stand by 'Siddaramaiah for CM' statement'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan

Stating that he was still committed to his statement about Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah becoming the "next Chief Minister", former Minister B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan on Monday said that he was willing to "sacrifice his constituency" Chamarajapet for him.

However, he added that the final decision on the next Chief Minister will be taken by the Congress high command.

"Mr. Siddaramaiah should contest from Chamarajapet. He will win with high margin," Mr. Zameer told presspersons here.

Regarding his own chances in Chamarajpet, he said: "I am the son of this constituency and people will not let me down. They will give me a high lead in victory."

He said that in 2018 everybody had united and conspired to defeat him, and this included JD(S) supremo H.D. Deve Gowda. "What happened to Mr. Gowda's challenge? Only my lead in victory increased," he said.

On the statement of former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy that the JD (S) was ready to make a Muslim the Deputy Chief Minister, Mr. Zameer said at the most, the party can win between 25 and 35 seats.

Caste calculations cast a shadow on election of Legislative Council chairman

Sharath S. Srivatsa
BENGALURU

Sources in the Chief Minister's Office said the election will be held in the Belagavi session, set to start on December 19

Amidst multiple demands coming from caste groups over the reservation matrix, the BJP government in the State is also facing a challenge to nominate the chairman of Legislative Council based on caste calculations.

While a section of the party wants pro tem Chairman Raghunath Rao Malkapure, a Kuruba, to continue, another section is pushing for the return of the seniormost and eight-term member Basavaraj Horatti, a Lingayat, who shifted from Janata Dal (Secular) ostensibly after being promised the post. He resigned from the post of the chairman and also gave up his membership of the Upper House to join the BJP.

Once postponed

Unable to arrive at a decision, the government has already once put off the election, scheduled in the Monsoon session, despite the dates being fixed and a notification put out. The process then was also delayed as a section of party leaders were against handing over the post to a "new entrant" to the party overlooking the "original" BJP leaders.

The BJP achieved a majority in the Legislative Council for the first time in 2022, and currently has 39 members in the 75-member Upper House.

A decision is expected to be made in the Winter session. Sources in the Chief Minister's Office said the election will be held in the Belagavi session, set to start on December 19, and the government is expected to back Mr. Horatti for the post.

Kuruba factor

Kurubara Sangha, which is pushing for the return of former Minister K.S. Eshwarappa to the Cabinet, has also sought the post of the Upper House Chairman for Mr. Malkapure. Former Chairman Horatti, who is believed to have been upset after the postponement of the election in the Monsoon session, has been pacified, sources said.

"Though former Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa and Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai are inclined toward Mr. Horatti, the party is yet to decide," a senior BJP functionary said. He also acknowledged the caste pressure on the party regarding the choice of the chairman but dismissed the threats of Kurubara Sangha over Mr. Malkapure's elevation.

In North Karnataka, Veerashaiva-Lingayats form a huge base for the BJP. In fact, it was Lingayat leaders, including former Chief Ministers B.S. Yediyurappa and Jagadish Shettar, who took the lead in convincing Mr. Horatti to join the BJP, sources said.

Sources close to the veteran leader insist on keeping this promise. "We hope the party will make Mr. Horatti the chairman during the Winter session," said a person close to Mr. Horatti.

There should be devotion in politics, and not the other way around: HC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

There should be devotion in politics and not politics in devotion, the High Court of Karnataka observed while noticing that a litigation was completely shrouded in politics regarding the location of an idol in a place of worship.

"People who worship are not complaining," the court said, adding that people who play with the emotions of such worshippers are squabbling.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna made the observation while disposing of a petition filed by Prakash and two other trustee of Kamsagara-Beeralingeshwara and Hinde Mallikarjuna Temple, Doddathekalavatti village, Hosadurga taluk of Chitradurga district.

Action questioned

The petitioners had questioned the action of a faction, led by Govindappa, a former member of the Legislative Assembly and administrator of Sri Kaginele Peeta, in making attempts to shift the idol to the old dilapidated temple building from the newly constructed temple building, where the idol was installed in 2015, relocating it from the old temple.

While observing that it was the politics that had led the petitioners to the court, Justice Nagaprasanna asked both the factions to approach the civil court to decide the issue, on whether the idol was to be shifted back to the old temple or to be retained at the new temple.

However, on noticing that the old temple was in a dilapidated condition, and the new temple could accommodate necessary gathering at any point in time, the High Court ordered retaining of the idol in the new temple in public interest and public safety till the competent civil court adjudicates the probable suit, if instituted by any of the factions.

"If the deity is to be worshipped, people can worship the deity at the new temple. Political consideration or any such agenda as alleged should not take away public interest or public safety, in the deity being shifted from one place to the other," the court said.

The court said it would be necessary for the people of the community i.e., Hori Kuruba community, which manages religious rituals of the temple, to sit together and decide about the location of placing the deity before approaching the civil court. The manner of worship will not change from shifting the deity from one place to another as the devotees of both the temples are the same, the court noted.

Women and Child Development, Department

Child Protecstion office, 1st Floor, New Kolar Nursing Home Building, Kuvempu Nagar Kolar-563101
e-Mail: **cdpoklr@gmail.com** Telephone: **08152-229225**
No: CDPOK/DWCD/Egg Tender/2022-23 Date: 02.12.2022

e-Tender Announcement

Kolar Child Development Scheme, Tender are invited through E-Procurement for Supply of Chicken Eggs from eligible organization to 464 Anganawadi Centers under Kolar, On eproc.karnataka.gov.in website the tender can be submitted. For more information contact tel: 08152-229225 at the above address.

(1) Commencement date for receipt of application through e-Procurement: **01.12.2022. (2)** Last date for Submission of application through e-Procurement: **20.12.2022. (3)** Date of Opening of Technical bid: **23.12.2022. (4)** Date of Opening of Financial bid: **28.12.2022. (5)** EMD Amount: **Rs.2,65,000/- (Two Lakhs Sixty Five Thousand Only). (6)** Annual Estimated Tender Amount: **Rs.177.19 Lakhs.**

Sd/-
Child Development Project Officer. Kolar
DIPR/Kolar/R.O.No.399/MC&A/2022-23

COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

Government Of Karnataka
Deputy Commissioner Office, Koppal
District Urban Development Cell District: Koppal
State: Karnataka Office Ph : 08539-221895 Fax No : 08539-221235 **e-mail : itstaff_dudc_koppal@yahoo.com**
Ref. No: 83823/(KOP-DC-11/73/2022-PD(DUDC)_KOPDC-KOPPAL DC) Date:02.12.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION: E-Procurement

The Executive Engineer, District Urban Development Cell, Koppal District, Koppal invites tenders from Class–II Contractors who are eligible for, Chief Ministers Amruth Nagarothana (Municipality) Phase-4 Scheme in Town Panchayats Yelburga and Kukanur Urban Local Bodies limit in Koppal District of Karnataka State as per Price Schedule listed in E-Procurement Portal www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.

Brief Description: 1. Yelburga TP.Indent No: DMA/2022-23/ BD/WORK_INDENT142603. **Approximate value of work (Rs. In Lakhs):** 200.00. **EMD (in Lakhs):** 3.00. **Period of Completion (Months):** 12
Brief Description: 2. Kukanoor TP. Indent No:DMA/2022-23/ BD/WORK_INDENT142604. **Approximate value of work (Rs. In Lakhs):** 300.00. **EMD (in Lakhs):** 4.50. **Period of Completion (Months):** 18
Available of Tender Forms (Through Online): **28-11-2022 Morning 10:00 am.** Date of Pre-Bid Meeting and Quaries: **08-12-2022 Evening 5:00 am.** Last Date for Submission of Tender: **28-12-2022 Evening 5:30 pm.** Date of opening Tenders **(Technical Bid): 02-01-2023 Morning 11:00 am.**
Sd/-Executive Engineer, DUDC, Koppal District
DIPR/Koppal/485/MCA/2022-23

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby notified that our clients propose to purchase 4(FOUR) sites situated in the residential layout known as KNS NESTER carved out the residentially converted lands bearing various Survey Numbers of Chikkanahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk and approved by the Magadi Planning Authority and which is more fully described as Item Nos. 1,2, 3 and 4 in the Schedule hereunder, hereinafter referred to as the Schedule Property from Mr. K.N. Boregowda, S/o Mr. Nagu, Resident of No.1013/A, 4th Cross, 11th Main, Hampinagar, Vijayanagar, Bangalore-560 104 and developed by M/S. K.N.S. Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd., A company incorporated under the Indian Companies Act, having its Registered Office at No.1125/12, 1st Floor, Service Road, Hampinagar, Vijayanagar II Stage, Bangalore-560 104, Represented by its Director Mr. K. N. Boregowda.

Any person/s having any claim/s in respect of the Schedule Property or objections for the proposed transaction may lodge their claims/ objections with legal documentary proof with the undersigned within 15(Fifteen) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, thereafter our clients shall proceed to complete the sale transaction and claims/objections received beyond the stipulated period will not be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ITEM No. 1:
Site No. 316, V.P. Khata No.12/316, E. Khata No. 150200302403320848, Situated in the residential layout known as KNS NESTER carved out the residentially converted lands bearing Survey Nos. 128/3 and 128/4, Chikkanahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk and approved by the Magadi Planning Authority and measuring East to West: 18.29 Meters and North to South 12.19 Meters, Totally measuring 222.96 Square Meters and bounded on East by Site Nos.288 and 289, West by Road, North by Site No.315 and South by Site No.317.

ITEM No. 2:
Site No. 317, V.P. Khata No.12/317, E. Khata No.150200302403320849,- Situated in the residential layout known as KNS NESTER carved out the residentially converted lands bearing Survey No. 128/4, Chikkanahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk and approved by the Magadi Planning Authority and measuring East to West: 18.29 Meters and North to South 12.19 Meters, Totally measuring 222.96 Square Meters and bounded on East by Site Nos.286 and 287, West by Road, North by Site No.316 and South by Site No.318.

ITEM No. 3:
Site No. 284, V.P. Khata No.12/284, E.Khata No. 150200302403320829, Situated in the residential layout known as KNS NESTER carved out the residentially converted lands bearing Survey No. 128/4, Chikkanahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk and approved by the Magadi Planning Authority and measuring East to West: 12.19 Meters and North to South 9.14 Meters, Totally measuring 111.42 Square Meters and bounded on East by Road, West by Site No.319, North by Site No.285 and South by Site No.283.

ITEM No. 4:
Site No. 318, V.P.Khata No.12/318, E.Khata No. 150200302403320850, Situated in the residential layout known as KNS NESTER carved out the residentially converted lands bearing Survey No. 128/4, Chikkanahalli Village, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk and approved by the Magadi Planning Authority and measuring East to West: 18.29 Meters and North to South 12.19 Meters, Totally measuring 222.96 Square Meters and bounded on East by Site Nos.285 and 286, West by Road, North by Site No.317 and South by Site No.319.

Mr. N. JAIPRAKASH RAO
Mrs. VEENA RAO
Mr. N. ASHOK KUMAR
JAYPEE ASSOCIATES
"LAW FIRM"
No.38, "KRISHNA", 1st Cross, Malleswaram
BANGALORE - 560 003.
Phone No: 080-23560360, 23468742
E-mail: contact@jaypeeassociates.com

BANGALORE
DATE : 06-12-2022

KARNATAKA HOUSING BOARD
3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru-560009

SHORT TERM TENDER (Through E-Procurement portal)

- **Name of work :** Appointment of Project Management Consultant (PMC) for the construction of Bridge across Bommandahalli, Kadujakkanhalli Nala, Retaining walls & RCC Box culvert for approach road at Suryanagar 4th Phase, Konasandra & Bommandahalli Village, Jigani Hobali, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District (CALL-2).
- **Notification No.:** KHB/C.E/Bridge/Suryanagar 4th Phase/PMC/NIT No. 171/2022-23/CALL-2/Date: 02.12.2022.
- **Last date for submission of bid: 14.12.2022 up to 4.00 PM**

For more information contact below mentioned office address: **Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Cauvery Bhavan, Bangalore, Telephone No. 080-22273511/080-22100077, website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

DIPR/CP/3393/AKAR/22-23

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Karnataka Housing Board, Bengaluru

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

OBITUARY

12-08-1935 - 02-12-2022

VIJAYA SRINIVASAN

Died of natural causes on 2 December 2022, in her home and on the very land that she was born. Her commitment and loyalty to family especially parents, siblings, nieces and nephews was the center pillar of her life. She was a very loving and vibrant personality and found great joy in cooking all the favourite dishes for her family, nieces, nephews and 'adopted' friends. She had a wonderful singing voice and established the music group 'Annapurna Anjali' in Trivandrum, where she taught music and gave several live and radio performances. She set to music the poetry written by her paternal Aunt Annapurna 'Ammini'. She lived by her faith and was an ardent devotee of Shakti. She was very deeply affected by the loss of her three sisters, 'the Warren Road sisters', and they each were great proponents of women's rights. She was never at a loss for words and had the splendid gift of repartee. She is survived by her husband Dr. N.S. Srinivasan (Founder-Director, NATPAC and Advisor to the Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka governments, as well as the Central Government on traffic challenges), her two daughters Dr. Shobha Srinivasan and Dr. Sukanya Srinivasan, her grandson Siddharth Srinivasan, her older brother K. Suryanarayanan, and several nieces and nephews. She had a wonderful life and had a strong influence on her family. Her passing away will leave a huge void in all our lives.

Dr. N.S Srinivasan, Dr. Shobha Srinivasan, Dr. Sukanya Srinivasan, Siddharth Srinivasan & K.Suryanarayanan
(Contact: 9840246072)

'Nepotism in jobs' debate storms Kerala Assembly

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The seventh session of the 15th Kerala Assembly began on a stormy note on Monday with the Congress-led UDF Opposition disrupting the House and staging a walkout citing nepotism in government appointments.

UDF members trooped into the Well of the House accusing the ruling front of lording over a legacy of preferential treatment for CPI(M) nominees in postings in municipalities, government missions, public sector units, and State-funded universities.

Seeking leave of the House for an adjournment motion to debate alleged backdoor appointments via the CPI(M) route, Congress legislator P.C. Vishnunath highlighted the purported letter allegedly written by Thiruvananthapuram Mayor Arya Rajendran to CPI(M) district secretary Anavoor Nagappan 'intimating' the latter about 295 vacancies in Corporation-run public health centres.

Sugarcane growers' agitation to continue as meeting with govt. fails

While farmers were offered ₹50 out of ₹126 from profits accrued by sugar factories, they refused to accept it

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The meeting of sugarcane growers and the government on Monday resulted in a deadlock and the farmers have decided to continue their dharna which has been ongoing for 14 days.

After Sugar Minister Shankar Patil Munenakoppa promised to convene a meeting with Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Tuesday to discuss the matter, the farmers agreed to temporarily put off Tuesday's planned hunger strike. While the farmers were offered ₹50 out of ₹126 from the profits accrued by sugar factories through the production of by-products from a tonne of sugarcane besides the fair and remunerative price (FRP), the farmers refused to accept the offer.

Farmers have been sitting on dharna for the last 14 days. FILE PHOTO

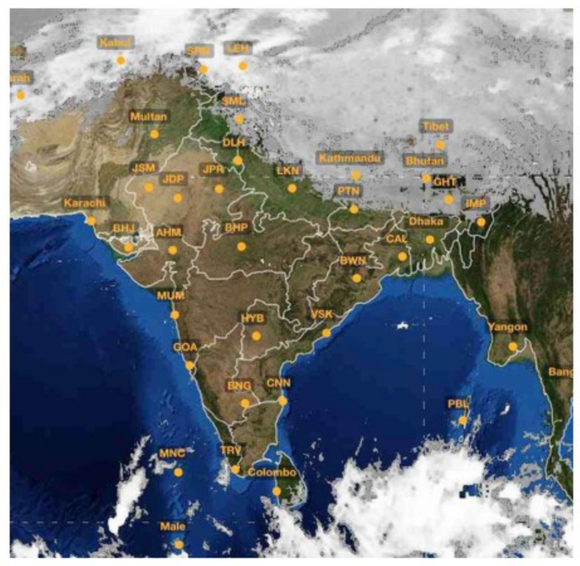
"The price offered is not correct. We were told that ₹50 per tonne would be given now and the rest would be settled after the crushing season ends in April. This price would also be dependent on the profits of the sugar factory. This we did not agree to," Sugarcane Farmers' Association president Kurubur Shanthkumar told *The Hindu*.

He said that the demand to reduce the transport cost per tonne that has been increased from ₹250 to ₹300 unilaterally this year had to be reduced. "What was offered to farmers through profits by by products is meagre. We want the transport cost to be also reduced," he said.

Further, farmers also said that the factories should be asked to follow the government orders since they receive financial incentive on production of ethanol, lower rate of interest and lower power tariff among others. "The State advised price has been fixed in Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Tamil Nadu, and Andhra Pradesh. This has to be considered. Farmers should not be cheated in the yield calculation. The government should consider all these," Mr. Shanthkumar said.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Tuesday: Dense fog in isolated pockets very likely over Himachal Pradesh. Heavy rainfall at isolated places likely over Andaman and Nicobar Islands.Thundersquall (speed reaching 50-60 kmph) at isolated places likely over Andaman and Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	30.8	14.2	Kozhikode	2	32.5	23.9
Ahmedabad	—	30.7	15.6	Kurnool	—	33.1	22.4
Aizawl	—	—	15.0	Lucknow	—	25.0	12.0
Allahabad	—	26.2	11.0	Madurai	0.7	31.2	23.6
Bengaluru	—	27.4	18.6	Mangaluru	—	29.6	24.4
Bhopal	—	28.9	—	Mumbai	—	31.4	24.2
Bhubaneswar	—	29.1	16.1	Mysuru	—	30.8	20.6
Chandigarh	—	24.7	8.9	New Delhi	—	24.2	8.0
Chennai	—	30.4	25.8	Patna	—	—	12.4
Coimbatore	—	29.6	21.1	Port Blair	—	31.9	26.8
Dehradun	—	25.0	9.8	Puducherry	6.4	30.4	22.2
Gangtok	—	17.1	9.8	Pune	—	32.2	19.9
Goa	—	33.7	24.0	Raipur	—	29.5	12.5
Guwahati	—	29.0	14.6	Ranchi	—	24.8	11.5
Hubballi	—	30.0	20.0	Shillong	—	20.1	8.2
Hyderabad	—	30.6	16.7	Shimla	—	17.6	6.4
Imphal	—	27.1	13.5	Srinagar	—	12.0	-3.4
Jaipur	—	25.0	10.8	Thiruvananthapuram	9	31.3	23.4
Kochi	6	31.6	24.4	Tiruchi	37	30.3	22.4
Kohima	—	21.0	7.2	Vijayawada	—	30.4	22.8
Kolkata	—	27.9	15.9	Visakhapatnam	—	30.0	24.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.15	..79	41	 64	...102	
Bengaluru	...7	..—	58	... 111	85	
Chennai	.22	..41	44	... 226	...133	
Delhi	.12	..65	30	... 335	...232	
Hyderabad	...5	..43	39	... 240	.....—	
Kolkata	.15	..16	55	... 303	...177	
Lucknow	.14	..56	44	... 324	...200	
Mumbai	.16	..—	82	... 362	...269	
Pune	..—	..—	.—	..... —	.....—	
Visakhapatnam	.35	..34	63	... 285	...162	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Begusarai, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 428 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 19

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Stay order extended for BJP leader

Marri Ramu
HYDERABAD

Justice K. Surender of Telangana High Court on Monday stayed the SIT's notice issued under Section 41A of the Criminal Procedure Code to Jaggu Kottilil alias Jaggu Swamy of Kochi in Kerala, accused of involvement in the TRS MLAs' poaching attempt case, till December 13.

The judge also extended to December 13 the stay order already issued in a writ petition filed by BJP national general secretary B.L. Santosh facing charges in the same case. Mr. Santhosh and three others were named as accused by the SIT in the case.

Kerala HC extends order against arrest of 4 in poaching case

The Hindu Bureau
KOCHI

The Kerala High Court on Monday extended till December 9 its interim order restraining the Telangana Police from arresting four Keralites in a case registered in connection with the alleged attempt to poach Telangana Rashtra Samiti MLAs.

The petitions are filed by K.N. Manilal of Ernakulam; and M. Sarath Mohan, Vimal Vijayan, and Prashanth K.P., all working with Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Centre, Kochi.

According to the petitioners, the case was originally registered for criminal intimidation against Ramachandra Barathi, Nanda Kumar, and Simhayaji Swamy. The allegation was that these accused persons had conspired with Bharath Dharma Jana Sena leader Tushar Vellappalli and Jaggu Kottilil, a doctor in AIMS, Kochi. Manilal is a relative of the doctor. The petitioners said they were not connected with the case.

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE 1st ADDITIONAL CIVIL JUDGE, BENGALURU RURAL DISTRICT AT BENGALURU
O.S No.886/2020

BETWEEN: SMT. CHANDRAKANTHA, W/o Sri. B.R. Vishwanath, aged about 58 years, R/at No. 16, Model House Street, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru - 560 004. ... **PLAINTIFF**
AND: SRI. R. MAHESH CHANDRA & ANOTHER ... **DEFENDANTS**

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT No.1 UNDER V RULE 20(1-A) OF C.P.C

1. **SRI. R. MAHESH CHANDRA,** S/o Late. L.S. Ramalingaiah, aged about 44 years, R/at No.2/1, Krishna Road, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru - 560 004.

WHEREAS, the Plaintiff has fled the above suit against you and another for the relief of Permanent Injunction and other consequential reliefs. You are hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble Court either in person or through a Pleader on the **11-01-2023** at 11.00 a.m to defend the above case failing which the matter heard and decided in your absence.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential Site bearing No.2, 3 & 6, Old Khatha No.6/9, Khatha No.258. New Khatha No.4864, converted by the order of Deputy Commissioner. Bangalore District vide order No.ALN(SU)SR.32/11-12 dated 25.08.2011 situated at Gottigere Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore measuring East to West 63 feet and North to South (70+99)/2 in total measuring 5040 Square feet and bounded as follows: **East by:** Site No. 1 belonging to the Plaintiff, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Site No.7 & Private Property.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 03-12-2022.

By order of the Court, Sheristedar, PRL. Civil Judge's Court, Bangalore (R) District, Bangalore.

Address for Service: **B.C. CHETHAN**
M/s LEXFIRM
No.201, Shankalp Business Bay, Next to Angala Parameshwari Temple, Binny Mill Road, Bengaluru - 560 023.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
WATER RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
Executive Engineer, KNNL, KPC Division No-2, Bhalki

No. KNNL/EE/KPC2/TS-5/2022-23/ 1201 dated:01.12.2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION/CALL-2 (ONLY THROUGH E-PROCUREMENT SYSTEM) IN TWO COVER SYSTEM

Tenders in Electronic mode on "PERCENTAGE BASIS" are invited on behalf of the Managing Director, KNNL, Bangalore, by the Executive Engineer, KNNL, K P C Division No.2, Bhalki in Two cover systems, from the contractors enrolled in KPWD of Karnataka State who fulfill the qualifying conditions, for the works details mentioned below.

The work Indent no's are 1) 34644, 2) 34645, 3) 34646 & 4) 34647. The amount put tender 1) 324.93 LAKHS, 2) 242.86 LAKHS, 3) 315.53 LAKHS, & 4) 230.79 LAKHS respectively and EMD and Class of Contractor as per E-portal

Calendar of events: a) The Contractor can have access to the e-tender document 03-12-2022 @11.00am b) The Last date of Submission of completed tender documents 12-12-2022 @ 16.30Hrs c) Date of Opening of Technical Bid is 13-12-2022 @ 17.00 Hrs & Financial bid is 14-12-2022 @ 17.01 Hrs respectively. All details & information can be had from the office of the under signed during office hours and visit website www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
DIPR/Bidar/354/MC&A/2022-23 **KNNL, KPC, Division no-2, Bhalki.**

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No. CEE/SLDC/SEE-SCADA/EE(D)/AEE-Proj/2022-23/4012-19 Date: 03.12.2022

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through E-Procurement Mode only)

KPTCL invites bids against **Enquiry No. KPTCL/CEE/SLDC/SEE-SCADA/Battery-013/2022-23,** for **Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Tubular Lead Acid Batteries along with Accessories under Buy-Back offer.**

The bids will be received through e-procurement portal only. The details regarding the subject enquiry in th the e-procurement portal can be obtained by logging on to **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **07.12.2022** and the Last date & time for receipt of bids in e-portal: **05.01.2023 at 17.30 Hrs.** Any extensions of due date for bid submission will be intimated in the e-procurement portal. Any details required in this regard can also be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Any corrigendum/ Addendums shall be noticed by the bidders before the last date of submission of the bids.

Sd/- **Chief Engineer, Electy., State Load Despatch Center, #28, Race Course Cross Road, A. R. Circle, Bengaluru - 560009. Ph:080-2267034.**

Public Works Department,
Office of the Executive Engineer, No.1, Buildings Division, S.J.P. Campus, Bengaluru. Ph:080-22255210.

No. EE/Bld.1/JE3/37/2022-23 Date: 03.12.2022

INVITATION FOR SHORT-TERM TENDER (IFT) 2nd Call

The above Department invites Tenders through e-procurement portal of GoK **(http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in)** from eligible Tenderers for the works mentioned below. The Tenderers are advised to note the minimum qualification criteria specified in Clause 3 of the Instructions to Tenderes to qualify for award of the contract. (Standard Tender Document-KW 2)

Name of the Work: **Renovation of Library Room at the 3rd Stage in Legislators Home-2 in Bengaluru. KPWD/2022-23/BD/WORK_INDENT156820).** Approx. amount: **Rs. 56.45 lakhs.** E.M.D.: **Rs. 113000/-** Cost of Document: **As in e-portal.** Period of Completion: **04 Months.** No. of Call: **2nd Call.** Tender documents can be downloaded from the e-procurement portal **from 03.12.2022. to 12.12.2022.** Last date for submission of Tender through e-procurement portal: **12.12.2022 up to 16.30 Hrs.** Date of opening the Tender as per e-procurement guidelines: **13.12.2022, 16.45 Hrs.** Other details can be seen in the tender documents.

DIPR/DD-C.P/3384/MCA/2022-23 **Sd/- Executive Engineer**

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that our client is desirous of purchasing lands more particularly described in the Schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as "**Schedule Property**" from its owners, whose details are mentioned in the Schedule hereunder.

Any person or persons, having any claim/right/title/estate or interest, in respect of the Schedule Property or any part thereof, by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, agreement for sale, transfer, assignment, lease, sub-lease, license, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, acquisition, requisition, any encumbrance or beneficial right / interest under any trust, right of prescription or pre-emption or under any agreement or other disposition or under any suit, decree, injunction order or attachment or award passed by any Court or Authority litigation, *lis-pendens*, decree or order of any adjudicating authority, exchange, partition, power of attorney, will, bequest, FSI, tenancy, development rights, partnership, family arrangement /settlement, possession, allotment or otherwise howsoever ("**Claim**") are hereby requested to make the same known in writing along with complete documentary proof to the undersigned within a period of 15 (fifteen) days from the date of publication hereof, failing which, it shall be presumed that no such Claim exists and if it exists, it shall be deemed that the claimant has relinquished such Claim and/or waived any right to exercise such Claim.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of agricultural lands, abutting each other, totally measuring 57 acres 23 guntas along with 18½ guntas of kharabh comprised in various survey numbers, as detailed below, situated at Banamakanahalli Village, Nandagudi Hobli, Hosakote Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, Karnataka:

Sl No.	Survey No.	Extent		Owner/s
		Acre	Gunta	
1.	18/1	1	04 ¾	Banamakanahalli Industrial and Logistics Private Limited
2.	18/2	1	04	
3.	18/3	0	17 ¾	
4.	18/4	0	24	
5.	18/5	0	22 ½	
6.	18/6	0	22 ¼	
7.	18/7	1	04 ¾	
8.	18/8	0	05	
9.	19/2	1	19	
10.	21/3	0	33	
11.	21/4	0	33	
12.	22/13	0	39	
13.	40/1	2	00	
14.	40/2	2	00	
15.	41/2	0	28 ½	
16.	41/4	0	29	
17.	41/5	0	28 ½	
18.	41/1	2	31	Ms. Lakshmamma
19.	41/3	0	20	Mr. Srinivasa
20.	42/1	1	32	Ms. Muniyamma
21.	42/2	1	07	Ms. Muniyamma
22.	42/3	0	34	Mr. Muniyappa
23.	42/4	0	33	Mr. Manjunatha
24.	42/5	0	13	Mr. Srinivasa
25.	43/1	4	15	Mr. Munipapanna, Mr. Venkatesha and Mr. Munipapaiah
26.	43/2	0	25	Ms. Gowramma
27.	44/1	1	00	Mr. Aleem Ullah
28.	44/2	1	00	Ms. Farida Begum
29.	44/3	1	00	Mr. Arjuman Banu
30.	44/4	1	39	Mr. Azmatullah
31.	45	5	01	Mr. Azmatullah and Mr. Mohammed Kaleemullah
32.	46/1	2	00	Ms. Chikkagangamma
33.	46/2	3	02	Mr. Mohammed Kaleemullah
34.	47/1	2	01	Ms. Chikkagangamma
35.	47/2	1	30	Mr. Mohammed Kaleemullah
36.	47/3	1	09	Mr. Azmathullah
37.	48/1	1	00	Mr. Aleemullah
38.	48/2	4	03	Mr. H Ramanjinappa
39.	49/2	1	33	Mr. H Ramanjinappa
40.	49/3	0	32 ½	Mr. H Ramanjinappa
41.	49/4	1	06	Mr. H Ramanjinappa

Date: 6 December 2022

Mr Sudheer Madamaiah
Advocate
Khaitan & Co LLP
Embassy Quest, 3rd Floor,45/1, Magrath Road, Bengaluru - 560 025.
T: +91 80 43397000, Mobile : 98455 25612

RAICHUR POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(YERAMARUS THERMAL POWER STATION)
(A Joint Venture Company of KPCL & BHEL)
CIN : U40101KA2009PLC049582

No.EE(MSP)/YTPS/22-23/172 Dated: 03.12.2022

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement portal only)

RPCL invites bids from reputed agencies for procurement of following materials required for YTPS. through e-Procurement paltform **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in (1)** YTPS/MRP11/G/21-22/2686/Call-4, 25.11.2022. **PVC clamps and insulators. (2)** YTPS/MRP61/G/21-22/2767/Call-3, 26.11.2022 **Spares for 400 NB PRV at YTPS. (3)** YTPS/MRP61/G/21-22/2758/Call-3, 26.11.2022 **Spares for Jet pump & Wetting head at YTPS. (4)** YTPS/MRP61/G/21-22/2752/Call-3, 26.11.2022 **Butterfly valve spares for AHP at YTPS. (5)** YTPS/MRP58/G/21-22/2731/Call-4, 26.11.2022 **Absorbent & Refrigerant pumps for VAM at YTPS. (6)** YTPS/MRP62/G/21-22/2955/Call-3, 26.11.2022 **Spares for EOT At CHP. (7)** YTPS/MRP62/G/21-22/3008/Call-3, 26.11.2022 **Spares for Hoists at CHP. (8)** EEMSP/ET/EE(MSP)/YTPS/22-23/253/Call-3, 26.11.2022 **Stacker Reclaimer Spares. (9)** EEMSP/ET/EE(MSP)/YTPS/22-23/441/Call-2, 28.11.2022 **Rail items. (10)** EEMSP/ET/EE(MSP)/YTPS/22-23 248/Call-3, 01.12.2022 **Spares for complete Gear Box. (11)** EEMSP/ET/EE(MSP)/YTPS/22-23/254/A 01.12.2022 **I & C spares for MF system. (12)** YTPS/MRP82/G/21-22/2198/Call-2, 02.12.2022 **Control Supply Transformers. (13)** EEMSP/ET/EE(MSP)/YTPS/22-23/638 03.12.2022 **Welding electrodes for YTPS. (14)** EEMSP/ET/EE(MSP)/YTPS/22-23/639 03.12.2022 **Molykote for YTPS.**

Last date & time for bid submission: For **Sl.No.(1): 12.12.2022, 16:00 hrs.** For **Sl.No.(2 & 4): 14.12.2022, 16:00 hrs.** For **Sl.No.(3, 5, 10): 15.12.2022, 16:00 hrs.** & For **Sl.No.(11): 16:30 hrs.** For **Sl.No.(6,7,8, 9 & 12):16.12.2022, 16:00 hrs**. For **Sl.No. (13 & 14): 10.12.2022, 16:00 hrs.**

Date & time for Technical bid opening : For **Sl.No.(1): 13.12.2022, 16:30 hrs.** For **Sl.No.(2 & 4): 15.12.2022, 16:30 hrs.** For **Sl.No. (3, 5, & 10) : 16.12.2022, 16:30 hrs.** For **Sl.No. (11) : 16.12.2022, 17:00 hrs.** For **Sl.No. (6,7,8, 9 & 12): 17.12.2022, 16:30 hrs.** For **Sl.No. (13 &14): 12.12.2022, 10:00 hrs.**

Date & time for Financial bid opening : For **Sl.No.(1): 13.12.2022, 17:00 hrs.** For **Sl.No. (2 & 4): 15.12.2022, 17:00 hrs.** For **Sl.No. (3, 5 & 10): 16.12.2022, 17:00 hrs.** For **Sl.No. (11): 16.12.2022, 17:30 hrs.** For **Sl.No. (6,7,8, 9 & 12) : 17.12.2022, 17:00 hrs.** For **Sl.No. (13 & 14): 12.12.2022, 10:30 hrs.**

The brief bid Notification containing detailed specification, pre-qualifying criteria for the bidders, calender of bid activities & other details can be accessed from GoK e-Procurement portal/ **www.karnatakapower.com** Further details can be had from the **Executive Engineer (MSP), RPCL, YTPS, Yermarus-584 134 Raichur. Mobile: +91-9480682892, e-Mail: eemsprpcl@gmail.com https://kpcl.karnataka.gov.in**

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
KALYANA KANRATAKA HUMAN RESOURCE, AGRICUTLURE & CULTURAL SOCIETY (R.), KALABURAGI DIVISION, KALABURAGI
Aiwan – E – Shahi Road, Opp: D.C. Office
Email: kksecklb@gmail.com Phone No: 08472-227712

No:KKHRACS/ DEV/ CR-139/ 2022-23 Date:02-12-2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION

This office invites quotations from interested agencies for **Supply of Plantation Saplings to Distribute to the Farmers of KOPPAL DISTRICT of Kalyan Karnataka Region.**

Interested agencies are invited to submit their quotations through e-procurement portal http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in on or before date: **17.12.2022 [Saturday]** at 4.30 pm and Technical Bid will be opened on **19.12.2022 [Monday]** at **05.00 pm** and Financial Bid will be opened on **20.12.2022 [Tuesday] at 11.00 am.** The details of which are mentioned below;

SL. NO:	DESCRIPTION	QTY.	PACKET SIZE
1	2	3	4
1)	MANGRO (KESAR)	1000	8x10
2)	SAPOTA (CRICKET BALL)	1000	7x8
3)	COCONUT (TIPATUR)	1000	13x13
4)	GUAVA (LAKHNOW – 49)	1000	7x8
5)	LEMON (BALAJI)	1000	5x6
6)	CUSTARD APPLE (BALANAGAR)	1000	7x8
7)	MAHOGANY	1000	8x10
8)	JAMUN	1000	8x10
	Total:	**8000**	-

Note: 1) Terms and Conditions & Eligibility Criteria are as per tender document. 2) For each taluka in the district total no of 8000 saplings to be supplied [Refer tender booklet [Annexure – XI] for details], 2) For More details contact office address.

Sd/- SECRETARY
Kalyan Karnataka Human Resource, Agriculture & Cultural Society [R], Kalaburagi Division Kalaburagi
DIP/Kalaburagi/920/MC&A/2022-23

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited
(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(E-PROCUREMENT MODE ONLY)
No.: SEE/Tr(W&M)C/MRB/EE(O)/AEE-2/T-64/22-23/5614-17 Date: 03.12.2022

KPTCL invites Tenders for the following works.

1). Bid Enquiry No.: **SEE/Tr.(W&M)C/MRB/DCA/EE(O)/AEE-2/T-64/Repair of Power Transformer_20MVA, 110/33-11KV DEODURGA_CALL-3, Dated:30.11.2022.** Tender for the work of "Dismantling, Transportation (to and fro), Repair, Testing, Erection and commissioning of sick Power Transformer of rating 20MVA, 110/33-11KV, ANDREW YULE MAKE, Sl.No.:13480 YEAR OF MANUFACTURE 2012 LYING AT **110KV SUB STATION DEODURGA** IN DEODURGA Taluk, Raichur District on **Total Turnkey Basis**".

2). Bid Enquiry No.: **SEE/Tr.(W&M)C/MRB/DCA/EE(O)/AEE-2/T-64/Repair of Power Transformer_20MVA, 110/33-11KV APMC RAICHUR_CALL-3, Dated: 30.11.2022.** Tender for the Work of "Dismantling, Transportation (to and fro), Repair, Testing, Erection and commissioning of sick Power Transformer of rating 20MVA, 110/33-11KV, IMP MAKE, Sl.No.: PT-6902 YEAR OF MANUFACTURE 2013 LYING AT **110KV S/S APMC RAICHUR** IN in Raichur Taluk, Raichur District on **Total Turnkey Basis**".

3). Bid Enquiry No.: **KPTCL/SEE/Tr.(W&M)C/MRB/EE(O)/AEE-2/T-64/22-23/Computers and Other T&P Material, Dated: 30.11.2022.** Tender for the Work of Design, Manufacture, Testing and supply of Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Desk top Computer, Printer and Photocopier as per KPTCL Specification required for Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Munirabad in Koppal District & Taluk.

Tenders will be received through E-Procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiries in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website: **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink **"e-Procurement-KPTCL"** or directly logging on to website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **07.12.2022** at **11:00Hrs.** Details can be obtained from the office of the under signed.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Ele., Transmission (W&M) Circle, KPTCL, Munirabad - 583 233.
Phone No.: **08539-270094.**

Faith and freedom

Freedom of religion is protected when state keeps away from matters of faith

Protracted litigation in the name of combating forcible religious conversion is taking up valuable time of courts. The Supreme Court is hearing a purported Public Interest Litigation (PIL) seeking action to curb deceitful religious conversion in the country. Not wanting to be left behind, the Gujarat government is seeking the removal of a stay on a provision in its anti-conversion law that requires prior permission from the District Magistrate for any conversion done "directly or indirectly". The Gujarat High Court had correctly stayed Section 5 of the Gujarat Freedom of Religion Act, 2003 (amended in 2021 to include 'conversion by marriage'), while also staying the operation of other provisions that sought to cover inter-faith marriages as instances of illegal conversion. The High Court had noted that the prior permission requirement would force someone to disclose one's religious belief or any change of faith, contrary to Supreme Court rulings that say marriage and faith involve an individual's choice. In a strange claim, Gujarat argues that the stay on Section 5 is affecting even genuine inter-faith marriages that involve no fraud or coercion, as those who usually solemnise such marriages are unable to do so. This is based on a claim that the prior permission requirement obviates the need to question the genuine nature of the conversion, if any, consequent upon an inter-religious marriage.

No one would buy the claim that the provision enables voluntary conversion. Freedom of religion is protected only when no questions are raised and no suspicion entertained based on the mere fact that an inter-faith marriage has taken place. Common sense would suggest that forcing someone to disclose an intent to change one's faith violates freedom of conscience and the right to privacy. Also, when a separate appeal against the High Court's interim orders staying the provisions is pending before the Supreme Court, there was no need for the State government's petition seeking to revive the prior permission requirement as part of the ongoing hearing on the PIL against religious conversions. On the larger issue, the observations of a Supreme Court Bench headed by Justice M.R. Shah to the effect that religious conversion through "allurement" or charity work is a serious problem indicate an eagerness to goad the Government into coming up with anti-conversion measures on a national scale. It is questionable whether courts should entertain exaggerated allegations of rampant fraudulent conversions across the country, instead of leaving it to States to identify the extent of the problem, if any, and adopt steps to protect religious freedom and communal harmony.

A case for change

Iran must choose reforms or risk more blowback from the protesters

The comments by Iran's Attorney General Mohammad-Jafar Montazeri that the Islamic Republic had disbanded its infamous morality police, after months-long protests, suggest that the regime is finally willing to make concessions. The latest spell of protests began in September after the death of Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old Kurdish-Iranian woman, who was in the custody of the morality police for wearing the hijab (headscarf) "improperly". Thousands of protesting youngsters, mostly women, took to the streets demanding an end to the mandatory hijab rules and calling for other reforms. The regime used repression and propaganda to bring the situation under control. Hundreds have been killed while pro-government sections have blamed "foreign hands" for the protests. But none of this has helped restore order. It was against this background that Mr. Montazeri said the morality police had been abolished and that the regime was reviewing the hijab rules. There is still no official announcement and the protesters remain cautious. But the authorities have not dismissed Mr. Montazeri's comments either. A bigger question, however, is whether this would be enough to placate the protesters.

Iran's theocratic system is unique in both its substance and functioning. While it ensures that the clergy remains firmly in control, it also draws legitimacy from presidential and legislative elections. Principalists, the status quoist defenders of the revolution, and moderates, who call for gradual reforms from within, are the main opposing camps in the electoral field. The reformists, including former Presidents Mohammad Khatami and Hassan Rouhani, often acted as safety valves in an otherwise tightly held system. But the two terms of each of these Presidents brought in little systemic change, leading to pent-up frustration. The U.S.-led economic sanctions made matters worse for Iran's rulers. The clerical establishment responded by consolidating more powers in its hands. All branches of the Iranian state – the Presidency, the judiciary and the Majlis – are now controlled by the hardliners, who always have the office of the Supreme Leader. But this concentration of power in a few hands and the sidelining of the moderates seem to have boomeranged. The death of Amini lit a fuse leaving the regime in a spot. The sustainability of any system is dependent on its ability to reform from within. Iran's post-revolutionary order has resisted the calls for reforms till now. But as the revolution ages and the calls for change get stronger, the Ayatollahs face their greatest dilemma – tighten their grip further, risking more blowback, or start gradual political and social reforms.

The COVID-19 pandemic, food and socialising

Arthur Schopenhauer, a famous German philosopher, observed, "Life swings like a pendulum backward and forward between pain and boredom." Perhaps he was right but he overlooked that in a crisis such as the COVID-19 pandemic, pain and boredom occur together. Lay-offs of the employed and deaths on a massive scale not just caused enormous pain and trauma but also mobility restrictions and closure of cinema halls, restaurants and restrictions on the scale of wedding ceremonies, and other forms of socialising during the lockdowns subjected large segments to unrelenting boredom.

Nidhi Kaicker
is Assistant Professor, B.R. Ambedkar University, Delhi

Aashi Gupta
is a doctoral student in Economics, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi

Raghav Gaiha
is Research Affiliate, Population Studies Centre, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, U.S.

The basis

Our study, based on eight waves of CMIE-CPHS (Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy which conducts Consumer Pyramids Household Surveys) before and during the pandemic (16th wave for the period January-April 2019 to the 23rd wave for the period May 2021-August 2021), is innovative as it simultaneously determines the incidence of COVID-19 and shares of food expenditure and socialising. The incidence of COVID-19 is driven largely by the source of transmission and the length/speed of transmission. The COVID-19 incidence determines the share of food expenditure and the two together determine the share of socialising expenditure of a household.

As mass lay-offs and interrupted food supply chains caused substantial income losses and food price spikes, low-income households barely maintained their subsistence while others made substantial adjustments to their allocation of household expenditure. However, food being a priority, Engel's law suggests that the share of food expenditure rises as income falls. This is further aggravated by food price spikes. The two together cause the share of food expenditure to rise. Given the budget constraint, a higher share of food expenditure is expected to lower that of socialising expenditure. However, budgets vary with resilience to income and price shocks. So, if the (relatively) affluent absorb these shocks and still have a large share of discretionary funds, their socialising expenditure may rise to break out of a monotonous and boring lifestyle. But it will be a mistake to overlook the preference for socialising. Pulling together these arguments, income, food prices and preferences for socialising simultaneously determine the share of socialising expenditure. To capture the contrasts, we disaggregate the analysis into rural and urban, paying greater attention to the latter where the trauma of the COVID-19 pandemic was greater, employment and income losses, and food price spikes were more pervasive, and preferences and opportunities for socialising were far more wide-ranging.

> The impact of the pandemic has been varied, as a study shows by determining the incidence of COVID-19 and the shares of food expenditure and socialising across urban and rural India

The incidence of COVID-19 rose with per capita expenditure but at a diminishing rate in urban India. The share of food expenditure also rose but at a diminishing rate. The share of socialising expenditure exhibited the same pattern as the share of food expenditure. So, while the more affluent were more likely to fall prey to COVID-19 infections, their allocation of food expenditure rose. However, this did not prevent them from spending more on socialising. As the more affluent travelled more, they were also more susceptible to the COVID-19 virus; their share of food expenditure rose because their income losses weakened the cushion against food price spikes but they could still afford their essential food intake; and the negative effect of rising per capita expenditure on socialising was more than offset at higher per capita expenditure, pointing to their stronger preference for socialising and their ability to access expensive eating out, lavish celebration of weddings and festivals (but within the limits imposed during the lockdowns).

Rural-urban contrast

As expected, the impact of food expenditure shares on socialising expenditure shares of households varies between rural and urban areas. The positive and significant effect of food expenditure shares of urban areas suggests a direct relationship, i.e., as households spend more on food, a higher amount is spent on socialising. Urban households are more addicted to socialising and, hence, despite higher food expenditure they managed more socialising.

The contrast with rural areas is striking but plausible. The incidence of COVID-19 varied with expenditure but at a diminishing rate. The share of food expenditure fell but at a diminishing rate as a large share of food consumption was self-produced and the market food price spikes were muted. Hence, it is not surprising that the socialising expenditure rose significantly. Thus even rural areas witnessed an expansion of outdoor facilities for eating, and celebration of weddings and festivals, and perhaps also a growing preference for socialising.

Food price stabilisation is a priority. The premise that inflation is largely a monetary phenomenon as reflected in increases in policy interest rates by the Reserve Bank of India is debatable. That inflation continues to be driven by supply chain disruptions during the COVID-19 pandemic is overlooked. Further, disruptions in energy and fertilizer supply due to the Ukraine war and the continuing surge in food prices have entrenched inflationary expectations that call for decisive policy intervention. An overhaul of the Public Distribution System and, specifically, more stringent regulation of diversion of food supply by PDS shops to the market are imperative.

Subject of mental health

A risk not emphasised enough is the deterioration of mental health related to COVID-19 pandemic-psychological stress, depression and loss of life satisfaction (*The Lancet Psychiatry*, November, 2022). Worse still, the loss of family members due to COVID-19 infections is often shattering and even results in suicidal tendencies. Unfortunately, psychiatric treatment in India remains woefully inadequate. Further, those who have access to qualified psychologists, psychiatrists, appropriate medicines and social networks that greatly destigmatise mental health disorders are located in the urban areas, and on top of the socio-economic ladder. But these privileges are not readily accessible in India's rural villages (*The Hindu*, October 29, 2018).

In brief, the impact of the pandemic is varied and daunting.

Climate talks as shortchanging international law

Fraud in public law is the deliberate attempt to avoid provisions of the statute. In the climate negotiations for instance, areas of interest to developing countries are not covered or sparsely covered, while other areas are over-regulated. Equitable sustainable development is not even discussed. At COP27, the policy debate was no longer legitimised by science. There seems to be a concerted effort to fraudulently change the basic structure of the Climate Treaty.

There are three problems with the current negotiating process. First, citizens in developed countries are not even aware that two-thirds of their national emissions of carbon dioxide come from their diet, transport, and residential and commercial sectors, which together constitute the major share of their GDP; the consumption sectors are not independent silos but reflect their urban lifestyles. Second, the process ignores that global well-being will also follow urbanisation of the developing country's population, requiring fossil fuels for infrastructure and energy to achieve comparable levels. Third, the need for vast quantities of cement and steel in developing countries for infrastructure – constituting essential emissions, as they urbanise – is not being considered.

As late urbanisers, developing countries account for more than half the annual emissions and most emissions growth. They cannot affordably access many of the new technologies to decarbonise quickly. The result is a shrinking of their policy space and human rights, endangering efforts to achieve comparable levels of well-being with those who developed earlier without any constraints. Such discussions are not taking place in the climate negotiations because of the way the agenda is set.

Mukul Sanwal
is a former United Nations diplomat with the Climate Change Secretariat

> There seems to be a concerted effort to change the basic structure of the Climate Treaty where de-carbonisation of arbitrarily selected sectors has to be discouraged

Politics, not science

The foundation of the Climate Treaty in international environmental law is questionable. In the run-up to the Stockholm Conference on the Environment (1972), the United States Secretary of States' Advisory Committee stated that "urbanization has changed the nation with seventy five percent of its people living in the urban area ...we must see ourselves not only as victims of environmental degradation but as environmental aggressors and change our patterns of consumption and production accordingly". A scientific committee set up by the U.S. State Department had earlier concluded that "long range planning to cope with global environmental problems must take account of the total ecological burden... controlling that burden by systematic reduction in per-capita production of goods and services would be politically unacceptable. A concerted effort is needed to orient technology toward making human demands upon the environment less severe". Power play framed natural resource use around risk management rather than technology transfer and the well-being of all within ecological limits.

Differentiated common responsibility

The objective of the Climate Treaty is to avoid a concentration of cumulative emissions of carbon dioxide, prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system and enable sustainable economic development. The Paris Agreement (2015) agreed to a 1.5°C global temperature goal. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in 2018 recommended that net emissions needed to zero out around 2050. In Glasgow, in 2021, negotiators zeroed in on coal to reduce future emissions. This initiative was not based on science and it ignored the key finding of the IPCC on the centrality of the carbon budget, i.e., cumulative emissions associated with a specific amount of global warming that scientifically links the temperature goal to national action.

Carbon budgets are robust as they can be estimated accurately from climate models. And, they are the most useful for policy as they couple the climate to the economy consistent with the science of both. The IPCC, in 2018, estimated the budget for a 50% chance of avoiding more than 1.5°C of warming to be 2,890 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide (now, it is less than 400bn tonnes), raising the question on how late developers will attain comparable levels of well being.

Climate justice

Climate injustice flows from the negotiations and not from the text of the Climate Treaty. First, the process adopted the structure of international law in a manner that rejected historical responsibility for a continuing problem, and steadily shifted the burden to China and India.

Second, the agenda was set around globalised material flows described as global warming (the symptom), and not wasteful use of energy.

Third, public finance is used as a means to secure a political objective, and not to solve the problem itself. The $100 billion promised at Paris along with pre-2020 commitments constituting the incentive for developing countries to agree to a global temperature goal has not materialised. And, new funding for 'Loss and Damage' will be from a "mosaic of solutions", constituting a breach of trust.

Fourth, the longer term trend has been ignored. With one-sixth of the global population, the developed country share in 2035 will still be 30%. Asia's emissions with half the world's population will rise to 40% remaining within its carbon budget. Pressures to further reduce emissions displace their human rights.

India's thrust on LiFE (or "Lifestyle for Environment"), with the individual shifting from wasteful consumption of natural resources goes back to the original science. Consumption-based framing challenges the 'universalism' that has dominated the negotiations and its common path of reductions based on single models. The carbon budget formalises a 'diversity' of solutions. For example, in developed countries, exchanging overconsumption of red meat for poultry can meet half the global emissions reduction required by the end of the century. A just transition for developing countries is about keeping within their carbon budget. And not de-carbonisation of arbitrarily selected sectors.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Kashmir Files'

All controversy surrounding the film, 'Kashmir Files', could have been avoided and India not have suffered ignominy had the said film not been nominated for the prestigious IFFI award. Though Nadav Lapid had to face criticism over his comments on the quality of the film, now that the majority of three jurors have backed his statement that the film was indeed 'vulgar and propaganda', it becomes clear that Lapid only voiced the opinion of the majority board members whose duty is to look into the merits and worthiness of a film based purely on critical artistic parameters. It is also a lesson that we should take utmost care in selecting films for awards in such prestigious international festivals.

Tharcius S. Fernando,
Chennai

Micronutrient malnutrition

In the article, "An Indian recipe to quell micronutrient malnutrition" (Editorial page, December 1), highly selective studies, prone to substantial bias, have been cited to support rice fortification. The Gadchiroli study was a non-randomised study of fortified rice distributed through the PDS, and there is a lot left unexplained in this unpublished report. The Gujarat study was also non-randomised and used a questionable method of measuring haemoglobin (non-blood based). Using just these two studies, sweeping generalisations have been made about the need for universal rice fortification, when a 2019 systematic review of all the evidence available by the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews, said: "Fortification of rice with iron…may make little or no difference in the risk of having anaemia…". For balance: a rigorous study published in the *Journal of Nutrition* 2012, with provision of an iron-fortified rice-based lunch to anaemic Indian children for eight months, also showed no positive effect.

The article dismisses the possible toxicity of fortified rice intake to those suffering from sickle cell anaemia, stating that these families would have a fortified rice consumption of 60g per person per day and that this would provide 2.5 mg of iron, which would entirely meet the daily iron requirement of 1-2 mg per day. This is wrong. The 2012 NSSO survey showed daily rice consumption in the range of 275-350g per capita. The absorption of iron is low, so 2.5 mg of iron would provide a very small fraction of the requirement. There is no doubt that a section of the Indian population needs extra iron: their needs should be addressed in a targeted way. But iron is a double-edged sword, and universal fortification is a problem. We should not cavalierly dismiss the risk of excess iron, and should also consider its possible long-term effects. Is the recipe for "quelling malnutrition" to be given forever?

Anura Kurpad,
Bengaluru

Harshpal Singh Sachdev,
New Delhi

Corrections & Clarifications

The photo caption that accompanied the story titled "West Bengal power plants failed to control sulphur dioxide emissions: report" (December 3, 2022, some editions) erroneously referred to the Haldia thermal power plant at *West* Midnapore district. It should have been *East* Midnapore district.

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No uniformity in parole and furlough rules

R.K. Vij

is a former Special DGP of Chhattisgarh. Views are personal

There was a huge uproar in the media when Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh, a convict serving a 20-year prison sentence for raping two disciples, was seen organising an online 'satsang' while on a 40-day parole in October. On the other hand, S. Nalini, a convict in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, who was serving life imprisonment, was given several extensions of parole from December 2021 until her release.

The Prisons Act, 1894, and the Prisoners Act, 1900, did not contain any specific provision pertaining to parole and/or furlough. However, Section 59 of the Prisons Act empowers States to make rules inter alia "for the shortening of sentences" and "for rewards for good conduct". Since "prisons, reformatories..." fall in the State List of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, States are well within their reach to legislate on issues related to prisons.

Parole/leaves and furlough

The Uttar Pradesh rules provide for the 'suspension of sentence' (without mentioning the term parole or furlough or leave) by the government generally up to one month. However, the period of suspension may exceed even 12 months with prior approval of the Governor. Maharashtra's rules permit release of a convict on 'furlough' for 21 or 28 days (depending upon the term of sentence), on 'emergency parole' for 14 days, and on 'regular parole' for 45 to 60 days.

The recently revised rules of Haryana (April 2022) permit 'regular parole' to a convict up to 10 weeks (in two parts), 'furlough' for three to four weeks in a calendar year, and 'emergency parole' up to four weeks. Ram Rahim is on his regular parole. Though the Tamil Nadu rules of 1982 permit 'ordinary leave' for a period of 21 to 40 days, 'emergency leave' is permitted up to 15 days (to be spread over four spells). However, in exceptional circumstances, the government may extend the period of emergency leave. Till recently, Nalini was on extended emergency leave owing to her mother's illness. Surprisingly, the Andhra Pradesh rules specifically prohibit such extension on account of the continued illness of a relative of a prisoner. They permit 'furlough' and parole/emergency leave up to two weeks, except that the government may extend parole/emergency leave in special circumstances. Similarly, Odisha rules permit 'furlough' for up to four weeks, 'parole leave' up to 30 days and 'special leave' up to 12 days. West Bengal provides for releasing a convict on 'parole' for a maximum period of one month and up to five days in case of any 'emergency'. Kerala provides for 60 days of 'ordinary leave' in four spells, and up to 15 days 'emergency leave' at a time.

Some States have a provision of 'custody parole'. In Haryana, a hardcore convict, who is ineligible for any parole or furlough, may be released for attending the funeral or marriage of a close relative under police escort for a period not exceeding six hours. In Tamil Nadu, police escort is given to a prisoner who is released on emergency leave and is dangerous to the community. Similarly, in Kerala, prisoners who are not eligible for emergency leave may be granted permission for visit under police escort for a maximum period of 24 hours.

While 'furlough' is considered as an incentive for good conduct in prison and is counted as a sentence served, parole or leave is mostly a suspension of sentence. Emergency parole or leave is granted for specified emergencies such as a death, serious illness or marriage in the family. While most States consider only close relatives such as spouse, parents, son, daughter, brother and sister as close family, Kerala has a long list of more than 24 relatives in case of death and 10 in case of marriage.

Though regular parole or leave is granted after serving minimum sentence (varying from one year to four years) in prison, some States include other familial and social obligations such as sowing or harvesting of agricultural crops, essential repair of house, and settling family disputes. In Kerala, a convict becomes eligible for ordinary leave after serving one-third of a year in prison if he is sentenced for one year.

Haryana has a long list of 'hardcore' prisoners who are not entitled to be released except on 'custody parole' under certain conditions. Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Kerala and West Bengal do not permit release of habitual criminals and convicts, who are dangerous to society, under Sections 392 to 402 of the Indian Penal Code. Some States do not impose such conditions.

Each State has a different yardstick to punish a prisoner who does not surrender after parole or furlough in time. Haryana punishes such a convict for two-three years of imprisonment along with a fine up to ₹1 lakh if he overstays beyond 10 days. On the other hand, Tamil Nadu merely punishes the convict under prison rules; and Uttar Pradesh records indiscipline and puts restrictions on further 'suspension of sentence' depending on overstay.

Need for some uniformity

Despite the fact that temporary release cannot be availed of as a matter of right, the above provisions demonstrate that each State has its own set of rules which not only vary in scope and content, but may also be flouted to give favours to a few. Without any common legal framework in place to guide the States and check misuse, arbitrariness is likely to creep in, endangering the entire criminal justice system. With 'prisons' in the State List, this task is not feasible unless at least half of the States come together to request the Central government to legislate a common law for the country on parole and furlough.

Each State has its own set of rules which not only vary in scope and content, but may also be flouted to give favours to a few

EWS quota: beyond the smokescreen

Why stick to an old approach that is not yielding the desired outcome?

Sathya Narayanan

Reservation was introduced as a short-term measure to give opportunities to classes of people who were socially and educationally backward and/or inadequately represented in education, employment, politics and other spheres. The intent was laudable. Reservation has increased the standard of life for many. But what was supposed to be a short-term measure got extended due to various political and sociological compulsions.

Eliminating the cause

Even after seven decades of reservation, we are not able to claim success in eliminating the cause that required reservation in the first place. In our personal lives and careers, if a solution to a problem doesn't give the expected result within a reasonable time frame, we reconsider the solution and try to improve it. However, successive governments kept extending the reservation system, hoping for a different outcome. People who benefited from reservation wanted the system to continue for successive generations too. It was clear that the reservation system was being used by them as a self-perpetuating mechanism. As a result, those who really needed reservation were deprived of its benefits.

At the time of Independence, the economy was primarily agrarian and based on traditional commerce. People were largely unskilled. They continued engaging in the professions that their family had practised for generations. However, free school education and industrialisation helped people learn new skills, which gave them scope to migrate to greener pastures. As cities became cosmopolitan, the class divide became a thing of the past. Employment in the industrial sector became largely skill-based rather than caste-based.

Social and educational backwardness go hand-in-hand with economic weakness. More than 70 years of reservation has brought economic prosperity to a large section of people and given them adequate representation. Ideally, families that have been brought above the poverty line through adequate employment opportunities and other benefits should make way for others who are less fortunate; instead, they oppose extending the system to the economically weaker sections (EWS) of society only because some of the beneficiaries could be from the so-called 'forward' communities.

The cause for social inequality and oppression was somewhat wrongly attributed to a particular faith and the practice of caste system prevalent in those days. In this technology-cum-information age, the surging middle class population makes the caste system less prevalent. The economic prosperity seen today has neutralised to a large extent the very reason for social injustice – the class disparity. However, the caste and reservation system are still being kept alive only so that political parties and those who have benefited from the system so far can continue to milk it.

The government has a constitutional and moral duty to achieve the goal of "social, economic and political justice," mentioned in the Preamble. The 10% quota for the EWS aims to correct an anomaly in the system that is depriving deserving and qualified people. We need to accept that reservation on the basis of economic criteria is the need of the hour and the stepping stone to achieving economic and social justice.

Misconceptions

Most objections to this come from a misunderstanding that the basic structure of the Constitution has been violated by the EWS amendment, which seeks to empower the privileged sections of society who are neither socially and educationally backward nor inadequately represented. Another misconception is that the 10% quota in the open category in favour of 'forward' communities reduces the availability of seats in the open category for other classes and communities. But the government has clarified that this 10% is in addition to the existing reservation in favour of SEBCs. This means it does not in any way affect reservation up to 50% for SEBCs, OBCs, SCs and STs.

The judgment that sets the basis for this 10% quota said, "If an egalitarian socio-economic order is the goal..., the deprivations arising from economic disadvantages, including those of discrimination and exclusion, need to be addressed to by the State; and for that matter, every affirmative action has the sanction of our Constitution..."

Opposition to this quota is intended to derail the all-round economic development that this government stands for.

Sathya Narayanan is a social observer and commentator

Will AAP change the number of effective parties in Gujarat?

In 2022, 75% of the seats in Punjab saw a triangular contest in contrast to its bipolar political history

DATA POINT

Sonikka Loganathan & Vignesh Radhakrishnan

With the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) fielding candidates in 181 Assembly seats in Gujarat for the 2022 State elections compared to the 29 it fielded in 2017, a triangular contest is expected this time in the State.

This is not the first time that the AAP has tried to change a State's political landscape. In Delhi, until 2008, there were bipolar contests in a majority of the seats. However, with the AAP's debut in 2013, Delhi witnessed a dramatic shift to a triangular contest with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the Congress (INC) being the other two "effective" contenders. In Punjab too, the AAP's debut in 2017 had a telling effect and a historically bipolar State saw a triangular contest for the first time. This shift to triangular contests increased further during the 2022 Assembly election.

But in Delhi, the shift from a bipolar contest to a triangular contest was relatively short-lived. The AAP was able to exert enough dominance for Delhi to return to a bipolar system, with 100% of the seats being fought between just two parties – either the AAP and the BJP or the AAP and the INC – in 2020. Although the AAP steadily amassed voters in successive elections, it also found itself fighting against a weakened opponent, which is another reason why Delhi turned bipolar again. The Congress acquired less than 5% of the overall votes in 2020, effectively losing its place as a major contender in many of the seats it fought.

While the number of parties contesting in a seat depends on the nominations filed, the "effective number of parties" in that constituency will depend on the vote share secured by them. An analysis of vote shares secured using the Laakso and Taagepera method tells us how many were effectively in the race to win that seat. This takes into account the number of parties contesting in a seat, and their vote shares, to arrive at the number of effective parties. For instance, as shown in **Table 1**, 94% of constituencies in the 2017 Gujarat elections had only one or two effective parties. In 1990 and 1995, a significant share of seats – 31% to 41% – witnessed a triangular/fragmented contest. However, since then, the contest has become increasingly bipolar, peaking in 2017.

Table 2 shows that in Punjab, 75% of the seats in the election in 2022 saw triangular contests. Before the entry of the AAP in 2017, a majority of the seats in the State saw bipolar contests in all the previous years. **Table 3** shows Delhi's transition to triangular contests in 2013 and the reversal to bipolar contests in recent elections post the consolidation of the AAP and the decimation of the Congress.

Chart 4 shows the share of seats with unipolar and bipolar contests against triangular and fragmented (>3 effective parties) contests. For instance, in Kerala, the share of seats which saw a unipolar/bipolar contest remained above 90% in all the polls, except in 1965. A similar trend was seen in West Bengal too, with over 90% of the seats recording a bipolar contest since 1982. Himachal Pradesh also followed a similar trend.

However, in Karnataka and Assam, elections either involved multiple effective parties or two effective parties till the latest polls. In the 2018 election, over 80% of the seats recorded a bipolar contest in Karnataka. In Assam, over 90% of the seats were effectively contested between two parties. In Uttar Pradesh, 60%-90% of the seats recorded a tripolar/fragmented contest till the 2012 polls. However, in the last two elections, elections have become increasingly bipolar, with the 2022 polls recording such contests in over 70% seats. In contrast, Bihar and Jammu and Kashmir have seen tripolar/fragmented contests over the years.

Analysing political systems

The effective number of parties in each seat is sourced from Trivedi Centre for Political Data's LokDhaba: Indian Elections Dataset. 1&2: unipolar and bipolar; =>3: triangular and fragmented contests

Table 1: Gujarat — % of seats

Year	1 & 2	=>3
1962	92%	8%
1967	91%	9%
1972	77%	23%
1975	82%	18%
1980	80%	20%
1985	90%	10%
1990	69%	31%
1995	59%	41%
1998	78%	22%
2002	88%	12%
2007	88%	12%
2012	87%	13%
2017	94%	6%

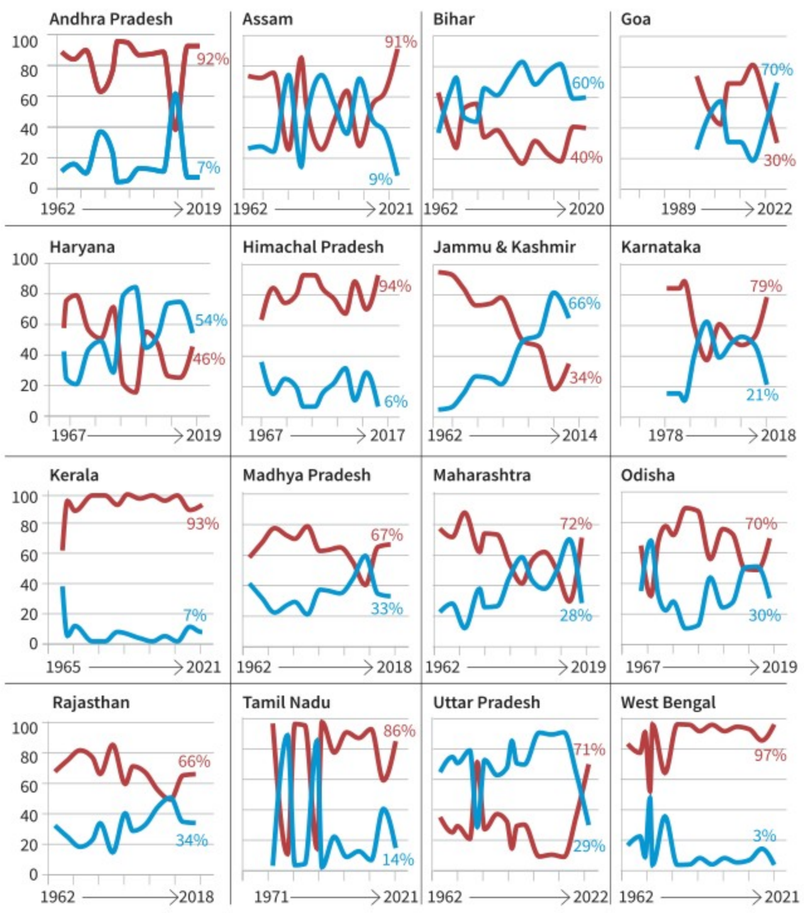
Table 2: Punjab — % of seats

Year	1 & 2	=>3
1962	70%	30%
1967	56%	44%
1969	77%	23%
1972	89%	11%
1977	90%	10%
1980	88%	12%
1985	74%	26%
1992	66%	34%
1997	68%	32%
2002	53%	47%
2007	86%	14%
2012	71%	29%
2017	45%	55%
2022	25%	75%

Table 3: Delhi — % of seats

Year	1 & 2	=>3
1972	88%	13%
1977	95%	5%
1983	91%	9%
1993	60%	40%
1998	80%	20%
2003	84%	16%
2008	66%	34%
2013	16%	84%
2015	97%	3%
2020	100%	—

Chart 4 | The charts show the % of seats which recorded unipolar/bipolar contests against the % of seats which recorded triangular/fragmented contests. The % share of seats is depicted across many election years for select States.



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FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO DECEMBER 6, 1972

Gale and rain lash Madras: 2 killed and 30,000 homeless

Madras, Dec. 5: Incessant rain and gale which hit Madras to-day claimed two lives and disrupted road and air traffic. Many localities were flooded rendering 8,000 families consisting of 30,000 hutdwellers homeless. A child, Jayachandran (4), was fatally injured in a wall collapse at Mylappa Gramani Street in Aynavaram this morning. A 65-year-old man, Kuppuswami, was killed in Perambur when he came into contact with a snapped wire on the road. Most of the educational institutions remained closed. Attendance in many offices was thin. The Legislative Council did not meet this afternoon due to bad weather. It will meet at 4 p.m. tomorrow. The gale reaching a maximum speed of 87 km per hour lashed the city in the wake of the cyclonic storm – centered about 50 kms east south-east of Cuddalore at 1-30 a.m. which is expected to cross the coast in the early morning of December 6. The storm warning signal was hoisted at the Madras Port. All loading and unloading operations were suspended at the harbour. The Adyar and Cooum were in spate. The rushing waters in the Cooum burst the sand banks at its confluence with the sea beyond the Napier Bridge. The High Court Subway, many stretches of College Road in Nungambakkam, the section of Edward Elliot Road between Dr Natesan Road and the Royapettah High Road, Sullivans' Garden Road in Mylapore, Doraiswamy Road subway in T Nagar were under knee deep water following heavy rain. Some of the State Transport long distance services were affected to-day due to the fall of a tree near Pondicherry. The bus bound for Madras from Pondicherry was diverted via Tirukalkundram.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO DECEMBER 6, 1922

In America

President Harding is transmitting the budget to Congress and it shows that the probable government expenditure for 1923-24 is three billions and eightyone million dollars, which is half a billion below the current fiscal year. Receipts are estimated to exceed expenditure by 181 millions compared with the estimated deficit of 274 millions for the current year which Mr. Harding hoped to see greatly reduced during the remaining seven months.

From Page One

SC offers to find solution to 'deceitful conversion'

The apex court had in the past upheld statutes that monitored or controlled religious conversions. "They can argue that right to convert is a fundamental right but I will oppose it," the top law officer said. Senior advocate C.U. Singh, representing the Kerala Yukthivaad Sangham, a rationalist and secular organisation, objected to the court entertaining a petition by advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay. Mr. Singh said Mr. Upadhyay had filed the same petition thrice before and they were withdrawn without liberty. Senior advocate Raju Ramachandran, for a priest, also opposed Mr. Upadhyay on the ground of maintainability.

"Don't take this as adversarial or for other purposes. This is a very serious issue. Ultimately, it is against the basic principles of our Constitution... We are at the stage of final hearing and make it clear that we will not enter into the question of maintainability of the petition. Your objections are rejected," Justice Shah told Mr. Singh, while passing on printed material and photographs of what were allegedly forcible or deceitful religious conversions. The court directed the Centre to provide details of anti-conversion laws in various States and other materials.

BJP may win in Gujarat, Himachal, say exit polls

The *Republic TV P-MARQ* exit poll predicts the BJP may bag 128 to 148 seats, Congress-NCP 30 to 42 and the AAP two to 10 seats.

TV9 Gujarati has predicted 125-130 seats for the BJP, 40-50 for Congress-NCP and three to five for AAP. According to *India Today-Axis My India*, the BJP may secure 129-151 seats, Congress-NCP 16-30 and AAP nine to 21, whereas *ABP-CVoter* has projected 128-140 for the BJP, 31-43 for the Congress-led combine and three to 11 for AAP; *Times Now-ETG* forecast 139 seats for the ruling party, 30 for Congress-NCP and 11 for AAP. *News 24-Today's Chanakya* gave BJP 150 seats (+/-11), Congress combine 19 (+/-9) and AAP 11 (+/-7).

Going by the exit poll results, the BJP will again form the government in Himachal Pradesh, but it may turn out to be a tight contest. The *Republic P-MARQ* exit poll predicts 34-39 seats for the party, 28-33 for the Congress and 0-1 for the AAP. *India Today-Axis My India* has projected that the BJP may get 24-34 seats and Congress 30-40, while *Zee News-BARC* predicted 35-40 seats for the BJP, 20-25 for the Congress and a maximum of three for AAP. *Times Now-ETG* said 34-42 seats may go the BJP way and 24-32 to the Congress. As per the *News X-Jan Ki Baat* exit poll, BJP would bag 32-40 and Congress 27-34 seats.

The *India-TV-Matrize* poll put the figures at 35-40 for the BJP and 26-31 for the Congress, while *News 24-Today's Chanakya* said it would be 33 each for both parties. *TV9 Gujarati*'s exit poll gave 33 (+/-7) seats for the BJP and 31 for the Congress.

After 15 years, the BJP may face a major setback in the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) election with the exit polls predicting a massive victory for the AAP. *Times Now-ETG* has forecast 146-156 seats for the Arvind Kejriwal-led party, compared to 84-94 for the BJP and six-10 for the Congress. *Aaj Tak-Axis My India* survey suggested 149-171 seats for AAP, 69-91 for BJP and three to seven for the Congress.

The exit poll by *News X-Jan Ki Baat* gave 159-175 seats for the AAP, 70-92 for the BJP and four to seven for the Congress. *Zee News-BARC* said the AAP may secure 134-146 seats, BJP 82-94 and the Congress eight to 14. Counting of votes for the MCD election will be held on Wednesday.

DMK seeks review of SC judgment on EWS quota

The petition said the 103rd Amendment "has given them [advanced classes] a mask to hide behind the misleading term of 'economically weaker sections'". The term EWS has not been clearly defined. It benefits a class that has not suffered stigma or absence of opportunity, it argued.

"The Constitution Amendment does not justify as to why economic criteria is alone considered for providing such reservation. Neither Article 46 nor the Constitution defines weaker sections. Article 46 aims to promote education and economic interest of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and similar weaker groups," it said.

N.M. Thomas case

It pointed to the court's own seven-judge Bench judgment in the *N.M. Thomas* case that said that weaker sections do not mean every backward class but those dismally depressed categories comparable economically and educationally to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. The Supreme Court judgment in the EWS case did not explain how a group, which has been generationally "bestowed with 'cultural capital' (communication skills, accent, books, social networks or academic accomplishments) that they inherited from their families" could be called a weaker section of the society. The petition said the Sinho Commission Report relied by the Union for enacting the 103rd Constitutional Amendment itself had claimed that there was no authenticated data to support the data of below poverty line in economically backward class who were outside the reservation net.

Again, the DMK pointed out that the judgment had approved discrimination by permitting the exclusion of the poor from ST, SC and OBC categories from the 10% reservation.

PM seeks cooperation of all parties to make G-20 Presidency a success

Modi says it is an occasion to be proud of; many leaders however reiterate that India taking over the Presidency was by rotation and it should not be projected as the government's achievement

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday presided over a meeting of leaders from all political parties on India's Presidency of the G-20 and sought their cooperation to make it a big success as the government made a presentation of its year-long programmes in the run-up to the summit.

"Prime Minister [Modi] emphasised the importance of teamwork, and sought the cooperation of all leaders in the organisation of various G-20 events. He pointed out that the G-20 Presidency would help showcase parts of India beyond the conventional big metros, thus bringing out the uniqueness of each part of our nation," said a statement issued by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), adding that Home Minister Amit Shah and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had addressed the meeting. The MEA also made a presentation on India's priorities at the G20 Presidency, which Mr. Modi said "belongs to the entire nation".

Narendra Modi with Andhra Pradesh and West Bengal CMs, Jagan Mohan Reddy and Mamata Banerjee, respectively, on Monday. PTI

During the two-hour meeting, 15 leaders spoke and several of them reiterated that India taking over the Presidency was by rotation and it should not be projected as the government's achievement. G-20 or Group of 20 is an intergovernmental forum of the world's major developed and developing economies. In his concluding speech, Mr. Modi said it was an occasion for the entire country to be proud of and everyone should contribute to its success.

While congratulating the country over its Presidency, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge urged the Prime Minister to use India's influence to raise the border incursion issue with China, demand a permanent seat at the United Nations Security Council and formulate a common law to deal with economic offenders and fugitives.

Mr. Kharge not only urged the government to showcase the achievements of the country in the past 70 years but also highlighted former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's leadership to the G-20 countries during the economic crisis of 2008. He also cited that India in the past had chaired the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit and the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meet.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said the G-20 Presidency was not about one party's agenda. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin assured the Centre of his State's full support and co-operation in conducting the conferences to mark India's G-20 presidency.

Since a presentation about showcasing the empowerment of women, youth, farmers and disadvantaged sections, CPI general secretary D. Raja urged Mr. Modi to get the Women's Reservation Bill passed. In a statement highlighting party leader Sitaram Yechury's comments at the meeting, the CPI(M) reiterated that India's turn at the helm of the grouping is by the dint of a "rotating presidency".

Need for collective efforts highlighted at G-20 Sherpas meet

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The G-20 Sherpas held the first round of "substantive discussions" on the key areas of India's G-20 Presidency in Udaipur on Monday, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said.

The first day's discussions included sessions on 'Technical Transformation', 'Green Development and Lifestyle for Environment (LIFE)', 'Global and Regional Economy: Prospects and Challenges' and an informal '*Chai pe Charcha*' among the G-20 member countries.

"Discussions of the 1st Sherpa meeting were initiated by India's G-20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant, through an overview of India's G-20 priorities across our 13 Working Groups. The Sherpa highlighted India's role in providing a greater voice to the Global South, and utilising its G-20 Chairship to forge win-win collaborations between developing countries and advanced economies," said a press note released by the MEA.

Apart from Mr. Kant, Ajay Seth, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, gave an outline of the key economic challenges before the world and "highlighted the need for collective efforts by the G-20 to deal with them". The session on technology highlighted the importance of cybersecurity and digital skilling and the session on 'Green Development' included topics like 'just green and energy transitions'.

"Through a range of cultural activities, visits to historic sites and scenic locations and showcasing Rajasthani art and craft, the visiting G-20 delegates have got a rich glimpse and deep insight into our rich history and traditions," the MEA said.

Walk the talk and release Mirwaiz, Hurriyat tells PM

SRINAGAR

The Hurriyat on Monday asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi to walk the talk and release chief cleric Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, while referring to Mr. Modi's remarks after India assumed the Presidency of the G-20 grouping. In a statement, the Hurriyat recalled Mr. Modi's comment on resolution of issues "not by fighting each other, but only by acting together". It said such an approach should be used to deal with the Kashmir conflict.

Well within our right to disagree with RBI, government tells SC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday asked the government whether it would have brushed aside objections from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had the central bank opposed the demonetisation policy.

The question from the Constitution Bench led by Justice S. Abdul Nazeer came after Attorney-General R. Venkataramani said the government and the RBI "acted in consultation" to notify demonetisation in 2016. There was no question of delegation of powers to the Centre, he said.

The government had announced demonetisation, not through a parliamentary statute, but by issuing a notification in the gazette. The petitioners had argued that such an important move should not have been made by way of a "delegated legislation" like a gazette notification. The petitioners had also argued that the RBI had been in the dark about the demonetisation move.

"Suppose it [demonetisation] had emanated from the Centre and the RBI, in its wisdom, thought it was not right to do it now, or [it was not] right to do it at all, and given its proposal to the Centre. What would have happened then? Would the Centre have brushed it aside?" Justice B.V. Nagarjuna, one of the five judges on the Bench, asked the Attorney-General.

Mr. Venkataramani said the question did not arise in the case. The notification had subsequently merged with an Act of Parliament. Besides, he said, the government, as a sovereign power, was well within its right to disagree with the RBI.

Catching small fry is not enough, nab masterminds of drugs smuggling: FM

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday urged investigative agencies such as the Department of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) to capture the masterminds behind the proliferating smuggling of drugs such as cocaine into the country, stressing that just nabbing mules and peddlers is not enough to engender public confidence in actions against the drug menace.

Flagging the rising detection of smuggled cocaine into the country, Ms. Sitharaman asked the DRI to examine if this was being driven by India becoming 'a consuming country for the drug' rather than a transit route for drug smugglers.

Nirmala Sitharaman

Speaking at the DRI's Foundation Day, Ms. Sitharaman also said there seemed to be a correlation between high gold imports and the periods when higher smuggled gold is intercepted.

'Be smarter'

For ordinary citizens reading reports about seizures of drugs such as cocaine, the question that comes to mind is 'who is actually the big fish behind it and what happened to them', the Minister pointed out.

"You're catching all the small fries, the peddlers, the traffickers, the mules? Is that sufficient to gain public confidence? That's not sufficient at all," she underlined, urging DRI sleuths to be smarter than smugglers, who, she said, 'must leave some kind of trail or evidence' and 'indicate their *modus operandi*'.

"Are you able to bring the handlers of such matters who are behind the scene to face the law? Unless at least in a few cases, you are able to get those big fries, who are actually behind these operations, the constant question which remains in the citizen's mind is who are the people who are perpetrating this, the global mafia that controls this?" she added.

SC set to host 'hackathon' to spot ideas for better system

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court, for the first time in its 72-year history, is hosting a 'hackathon' event, a clear signal that it is looking to the public and the youth of the country to bring innovations to make justice delivery system more efficient. Chief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y. Chandrachud said the event would be an opportunity to engage in "collaborative brainstorming".

A statement from the Supreme Court said the goal is to "bring in evolution by inclusion of a new methodology for upgrading the ecosystem by generating out-of-the-box, open, innovative ideas". The event brings to focus the court's efforts to find an independent and exclusive online platform to livestream proceedings of courts around the country.

Farooq asks Army, govt. to stay away from poll process

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

Farooq Abdullah, who was re-elected as president of the National Conference (NC), on Monday asked the Army and the government to stay away from the election process in J&K.

He said, "I want to tell the Army and the government not to interfere in election. Otherwise, there will be a storm that you will not be able to control."

"I wasn't willing to continue as president. However, people in the NC insisted that I cannot leave at this crucial juncture. I agreed, but they should prepare the next generation for leading the party in the future," he said.

Mehbooba Mufti's new residence fails to get 'security clearance' from J&K police

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

Former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti's new residence in sparsely populated Khimber area on the outskirts of Srinagar could not get "security clearance" from the special Security Wing of the J&K Police.

According to the official communications of the Security Wing of the J&K Police, the location where Ms. Mufti has moved could not fulfil the 'security clearance' parameters. The J&K Police assess the security of all senior politicians. A security clearance is based on the assessment of threat perception and vulnerability of the area.

Mehbooba Mufti

Sources said Ms. Mufti's new residence, located 16 km from her earlier official residence, Fair View bungalow, has long desolate stretches up to the house located on the hill slope with sparse population around. The house also has a vast forest area in the background.

Ms. Mufti along with her daughter and mother, also wife of former Union Home Minister and ex-J&K chief minister Mufti Muhammad Sayeed, shifted to her sister's house in Khimber on November 30 this year.

The Lieutenant-Governor's administration in October warned to invoke provisions under Section (2) and Section 5 of the J&K Public Premises (Eviction of unauthorised occupants), 1988, in case Ms. Mufti and her family fail to leave the bungalow. After J&K was reduced to a Union Territory in 2019, ex-CMs were no longer offered rent-free residential accommodation.

HC notice to EC for framing rules to stop caste-based rallies

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Nine years after it passed an interim order banning caste-based political rallies in Uttar Pradesh while hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) plea, the Allahabad High Court has now issued fresh notices to the Election Commission as well as the BJP, the Congress, the SP and the BSP in the case and listed the matter for next hearing on December 15.

The court had in July 2013 passed the order, directing that there shall be no caste-based rallies with a political motive in the State till the EC took suitable measures after participating in the court proceedings.

However, in a November hearing before the Bench of Chief Justice Rajesh Bindal and Justice Jaspreet Singh, the court noted that the counsel for respondents were not present for the hearing and that no response had been filed by them.

Taking note of this, the court then proceeded to issue fresh notices to the respondents, seeking their reply by the next date of hearing.

The matter was taken up when advocate Moti Lal Yadav had sought directions that the EC be asked to frame rules to control political parties to influence voters on the basis of caste and religion.

Over 64% voter turnout in Gujarat second phase, Modi, Shah cast ballot

Polling held in 93 seats across 14 districts of north and central regions; Congress alleges that PM converted his visit to the booth into a 'roadshow' on polling day; counting on Thursday

The Hindu Bureau
AHMEDABAD

A modest voter turnout of 64.39% was recorded in the second phase of the Gujarat Assembly election on Monday, as per provisional data at 11.45 p.m.

Polling was held in 93 seats across 14 districts of north and central Gujarat. In 2017, the turnout in these constituencies stood at 68.41%.

In the first phase of voting on December 1, 63.3% turnout was registered in 89 seats in Saurashtra and south Gujarat districts.

On Monday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel were among those who cast their ballot in Ahmedabad.

Poll duty: Prime Minister Narendra Modi leaving the poll booth after casting his vote in Ahmedabad on Monday. VIJAY SONEJI

After the Prime Minister cast his vote in the Ranip area, the Congress alleged that Mr. Modi had converted his visit to the polling booth into a two-and-a-half hour roadshow on polling day and questioned the Election Commission's "silence" on the matter.

Gujarat's Additional Chief Electoral Officer Kuldeep Arta told mediapersons that a report had been sought from the Election Officer in Ahmedabad but a roadshow had not been established as the "crowd was there on its own".

The election authority also received complaints of malfunctioning electronic voting machines and voter verifiable paper audit trails from several places.

As many as 41 ballot units, 40 control units and 109 VVPATs were replaced, it said, adding that the polling process was overall peaceful.

Banaskantha district recorded the highest turnout at 71.4%, while Ahmedabad recorded the lowest at 58.32.The top contenders in the second phase include Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and Patidar quota agitation leader Hardik Patel. The counting of votes will be held on December 8.

Bypolls held in five States, peaceful polling amid low turnout in U.P.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The byelections in Uttar Pradesh's Mainpuri Lok Sabha seat and six Assembly seats spread over five States passed off peacefully on Monday.

In U.P., the Samajwadi Party and the Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) accused the ruling party of using the local administration to keep the voting percentage low in pockets of their influence. The BJP called it a move by Opposition to divert attention from impending loss in their traditional bastions. With the Congress and the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) deciding to sit out, U.P. saw a direct contest between the BJP and the SP, still licking its wound after the humiliating loss in Azamgarh and Rampur Lok Sabha byelections earlier this year.

In Mainpuri, where SP is fighting to save the legacy of party founder Mulayam Singh, whose death necessitated the poll, 51.8% of voters cast their vote after a charged campaign between SP candidate Dimple Yadav, former MP and wife of party president Akhilesh Yadav and BJP nominee Raghuraj Singh Shakya, an old SP hand who shifted allegiance to the saffron party after the feud in the Yadav family.

Getting inked: Women after casting their vote during the Mainpuri Lok Sabha byelection in Safai on Monday. SANDEEP SAXENA

In Rampur Sadar, the voting percentage plummeted to 32%, leading to charges from SP candidate Asim Raja that they fought the election against the alliance of the BJP government and the local administration.

In Khatauli, where RLD strongman Madan Bhaiya is locking horns with the spouse of outgoing BJP MLA Vikram Saini, whose conviction led to the bypoll, around 56% of voters exercised their franchise till 6 p.m.

In other byelections, the Padampur Assembly constituency in Odisha saw a huge turnout with more than 80% voters casting their vote. Here the ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJD), keen to reverse the loss suffered in the previous byelection in the State, has fielded Barsha Singh Bariha against the BJP's Pradip Purohit.

In Rajasthan's Sardarshahar election, nearly 70% votes were polled till 5.30 p.m. The Congress has fielded the late MLA Bhanwar Lal Sharma's son Anil Kumar against former MLA Ashok Kumar, the BJP candidate.

The contest for Chhattisgarh's Bhanupratappur seat, where BJP candidate Brahmanand Netam and Congress nominee Savitri Mandavi are in the fray, witnessed a 64.86% turnout. Ms. Mandavi is the spouse of Congress MLA Manoj Mandavi whose death necessitated the bypoll. In the Kurhani constituency in Bihar, voters scored 53% by 5 p.m. Here the BJP's Kedar Prasad Gupta is locked in a direct contest with JD(U) candidate Manoj Kushwaha. Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, who snapped ties with the BJP in August, and Deputy CM Tejaswi Yadav campaigned for Mr. Kushwaha.

43% voting in Kashmir DDC byelections

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

The byelections in two District Development Council (DDC) constituencies in north Kashmir on Monday recorded a 43% voting and reflected a split in the People's Alliance for Gupkar Declaration (PAGD), an amalgam of four political parties fighting for the pre-August 5, 2019 position of Jammu and Kashmir.

Votes polled

"Around 43% voting was recorded in the two constituencies that saw re-polling in the Kashmir division of the Union Territory. A total of 53.33% voting was recorded in Hajin-A, a constituency in Bandipora district, and 32.73% was recorded in Drugmulla constituency in Kupwara district," an official spokesperson said.

The counting for both the constituencies will be held on December 8.

Unlike the DDC elections held in December 2020, the electoral tie-up within the Gupkar alliance fell apart this time. The alliance, which fielded joint candidates, had won the highest of 110 constituencies out of 280 in 2020.

PM asks BJP members to maintain direct connect with border villagers

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

He was addressing a huddle of the BJP's office-bearers, State unit presidents and general secretaries

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said India's Presidency of the G-20 was a "matter of pride for all" and an occasion to establish globally Indianness and its culture.

He was addressing the two-day huddle here of the BJP's national office-bearers, State unit presidents and general secretaries (organisations).

The Prime Minister lauded the Kashi-Tamil Sangamam programme that was on in Varanasi and held it as a model for *sneh milans*, or cultural and other exchanges that he had first mooted during the national executive of the party held in Hyderabad earlier this year.

BJP vice-president and former Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh briefed presspersons after Mr. Modi's speech.

The Prime Minister asked BJP members to maintain direct connect with border villagers and said they should be developed as places that draw visitors.

He urged elected representatives of the BJP and party leaders to do night-stay programmes in border villages as a way of not only keeping in touch but also addressing issues in these villages.

The two-day meeting of all senior leaders in the party organisation, immediately after the conclusion of polling in the Gujarat Assembly election, has been called for a large-scale stock-taking exercise and to gird up for the upcoming electoral challenges.

Mr. Singh said the meeting will discuss various topical issues and also the upcoming State elections.

Sources told *The Hindu* that the stock-taking was also a precursor to J.P. Nadda getting an extension as BJP president (party presidents usually have a three-year tenure and any extension has to be approved of by the parliamentary board and the national executive).

CPI calls for abolition of post of Governor

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Stepping up their campaign demanding abolition of the post of Governor, the Communist Party of India (CPI) on Monday announced that it would observe December 29 as 'Defend Federalism Day' across the country.

Addressing a press conference in Delhi, party general secretary D. Raja said there are several examples of how the BJP has misused the Governor's office, recounting the events in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana and Puducherry.

"Governors are acting as direct political representatives of the ruling dispensation. In a parliamentary system, we do not need Governors. Situation is such that the Governors are not acting as Constitutional representatives," he said. He added that the Governor's office cannot be allowed to function as "camp offices of the BJP".

"In such a situation, what is the need for a Governor in States that have elected governments? Our party feels that it is time that we demand for the abolition of the post of Governor," Mr. Raja said.

Panel finalising its report on OBC sub-categorisation

Abhinay Lakshman
NEW DELHI

It is tasked with coming up with a formula to further classify nearly 3,000 caste groups

After more than five years of its formation, the commission for the sub-categorisation of the Other Backward Classes (OBC) is now in the final stages of finishing its task of coming up with a formula to further classify the nearly 3,000 caste groups and preparing a report on it, according to multiple officials aware of the developments.

The five-member commission, headed by Justice G. Rohini (retd), was constituted in October 2017 and was initially given 12 weeks to submit its report to the President of India. Since then, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has extended the deadline more than 10 times, first citing the additional time required by the commission to gather information and data and then the pandemic.

The latest deadline for the commission has been set for January 31, 2023.

Distributing quotas

The commission has been having a back-and-forth with the Union government over the past few years and is finalising the "sensitive work" of distributing quotas within the OBC groups, multiple members told *The Hindu*. "We have had to undertake a monumental task over the past few years and expect to submit the entire report before the next deadline expires," one of them added. In addition to recommending a formula that distributed the quota available to OBCs equitably among the caste groups, the commission was also tasked with identifying which caste groups would get what share of the 27% reservation pie.

For this, the commission has undertaken a large-scale exercise to determine which of the caste groups are the dominant ones and which are routinely pushed out of getting benefits.

According to the sources, the considerations made by the commission included dividing up the nearly 3,000 caste groups into four broad categories, with the maximum share available to those that are historically crowded out by the dominant groups. Officials have expressed concerns over how this report should be made public.

Government of Rajasthan
Directorate of Civil Aviation
State VIP Hangar, Sanganer Aiport, Jaipur-302011
Telefax: 0141-2550543 Email: dcarajasthan@gmail.com

File no.3 (10) DCA/2022/4203 Dated: 05/12/2022

NOTICE INVITING BID
Tender ID No.2022_CIVAV_308845_1

Bids for Hiring of Twin Engine VFR and IFR capable Helicopter with Seating capacity of 05 passengers (excluding crew) or/and 06-08 passengers (excluding crew) for a period of **10 months for travel of VVIPs** (estimated value of INR 10.50 Crores and 16.00 Crores respectively) are invited from interested bidders upto 12:00 hours on or before 12/12/22 Other particulars of the bid may be seen on the procurement portals (https://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in or https://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in/).

UBN DCA2223SLOB00025

DIPR/C/15629 **Director**

राष्ट्रीय इस्पात निगम लिमिटेड
RASHTRIYA ISPAT NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of India Enterprise)
Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
VISAKHAPATNAM STEEL PLANT
VIZAG STEEL Pride of Steel
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

RINL, Visakhapatnam Steel Plant invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from prospective vendors having Manufacturing capability and interest to supply "**High Performance Milling System (HPMS) for Bowl Mills of Boilers 1 to 6"** in Thermal Power Plant (TPP) Department of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant. Interested firms are requested to submit their EOI for supply of above items/system. The detailed EOI document can be downloaded from website **www.vizagsteel.com** under menu Tenders/MM Department and CPPP Portal http://www.eprocure.gov.in/epublish

For more details & corrigendums please visit regularly www.vizagsteel.com, **http://www.eprocure.gov.in/epublish**

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT
NOTICE INVITING REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

On behalf of the President of India, RFP is invited through e-Tendering by the **SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER - cum - HOD, ELECTRICITY DEPARTMENT, PUDUCHERRY on 29-11-2022 from the reputed consultants for appointment of Project Management Agency (PMA) towards Consultancy Services for assisting and supporting in Project Management to Electricity Department, Puducherry for Implementation of Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) in the UT of Puducherry"**

For more details, visit: **https://pudutenders.gov.in**

No.405/DIP/AD(Press)/2022-23 **Superintending Engineer-cum-Head of the Department**

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS

The Executive Engineer (E), Postal Electrical Division, Bengaluru invites on behalf of the President of India, on line percentage rate e-tenders from eligible contractors for the work of **"SITC of 1 No. 8 Passengers & 1 no 13 Passengers Lift at O/o CPMG**, Tamilnadu Circle, Chennai" **Estimated cost** – Rs. 32,00,000/- **EMD** – Rs 64,000/- **Time of completion:** 180 days vide **NIT No.** 97/EEE/PED/BGL/2022-23. **The last date of submission of online Tenders -** 19.12.2022 at 11.00AM and **Date of opening of tender -** 19.12.2022 at 11.30AM.

The detailed tender notice, tender documents, corrigendum (if any) and other instructions can be downloaded or viewed online from the website https://dopcivil.euniwizarde.com. For further clarifications, please contact: 080-26676804/802.

Executive Engineer (E)

KARNATAKA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION
Central Offices, Stores And Purchase Dept, K.H. Road, Shanthinagar, Bengaluru-560027

NOTICE INVITING TENDER NO 9 Dated: 05/12/2022

Tenders (Pre-qualification or commercial offers)through e-procurement portal (**http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in**) are invited for supply the following goods:

Tender No	Nomenclature of Items/ Services	Tender Value in crores Rs.(Approx)	Last date for submission of tender @17.00Hrs
G-74/22-23	Procurement of Automotive Lubricants	15.00	06/01/2023
G-75/22-23	Procurement of Automotive Grease	8.50	06/01/2023
G-76/22-23	Procurement of Non Amino Based Engine Coolant	5.60	06/01/2023
G-77/22-23	Procurement of Liquid Urea	5.00	06/01/2023
G-78/22-23	Procurement of Automotive Bulbs	2.00	06/01/2023
G-79/22-23	Procurement of Envelop & Curing Bags	4.10	06/01/2023
G-80/22-23	Procurement of Tyre & Tube Patches	1.50	06/01/2023
G-81/22-23	Supply of Dissolved Acetylene Gas	0.80	06/01/2023
G-82/22-23	Supply of Compressed Oxygen Gas, Carbon dioxide & Commercial Organ gas	0.40	06/01/2023
A-25/22-23	Procurement of Fan Belts	1.50	06/01/2023
A-26/22-23	Procurement of Fuel, Air and Oil Filters	25.00	06/01/2023
	SHORT TERM TENDER		
G-72/22-23	Project Management Consultancy Services for Implementation of Online Passenger Reservation System – OPRS (AWATAR 4.0) for KSRTC	0.50	12/12/2022
G-73/22-23	Procurement of SMF Batteries for UPS	3.00	12/12/2022

Further any addendum / corrigendum in respect of change in calendar of events, specification, scope, other tender terms and conditions etc, will be uploaded/ published through e-portal only.

NOTE: Interested suppliers need to register in the e-procurement portal. For further information log into **http://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** In case of further assistance, contact e-procurement cell (Phone.No. 080-22230960, 080–22234115). Interested suppliers may also contact e-procurement cell for training on bid submission. Mail to **eprocurementhelpdesk@gmail.com** for further information if required. In case of bidders need assistance from KSRTC, can communicate at cosp@ksrtc.org, (contact: 7760990225,7760990224)

Sd/- CONTROLLER OF STORES & PURCHASES
(Tender Inviting Authority)

DIPR/CP/JA/3398/2022-23

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD
Office of the Chief Engineer (Project)
3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K. G. Road, Bengaluru-560 009.

IFT No.:BWSSB/CE(P)/ACE(Cstr&DCW)/TA-2/AE/1026/2022-23 Dt: 05.12.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procurement portal only)

BWSSB, invites tenders eligible contractors for the **Supply of 100mm dia Class K9 DI Pipes confirming to IS:8329/ 2000 with inner Cement Mortar Lining and outer Zinc coating & necessary bituminous suitable for standard lengths with SBR/EPDM Rubber Gaskets confirming to IS:5382/1985 and its dimension in accordance with IS:12820/1989.**

Amount put to tender: **Rs.4,82,01,230/-.** EMD: **Rs.7.23 Lakhs.**

Last date and time for reciept of tenders is on: **20-12-2022 before 16:00 hours.** The technical bids will be opened on **22-12-2022 at 16:00 hours.** The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement can be obtained by logging on to website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.** For further details contact the undersigned during office working hours.

Sd/-
DIPR/CP/AAPL/RO3399/22-23 **Chief Engineer (Project).**

INBRIEF

Lalu Prasad, daughter doing fine after transplant surgery

Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) president Lalu Prasad, on Monday, underwent a successful kidney transplant surgery in Singapore, his son and Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav said. Mr. Tejashwi said both his father and elder sister Rohini Acharya, who donated one of her kidneys to the 74-year-old, were fine after the surgery. "After a successful kidney transplant operation, Papa has been shifted from the operation theatre to the ICU. Donor elder sister Rohini Acharya and our national president are fine. Gratitude to all those who prayed for them and wished them well," he tweeted, along with a video from the hospital.

Man fined for asking sect leader be called 'Paramatma'

The Supreme Court on Monday imposed ₹1 lakh as exemplary costs on a PIL petitioner who wanted a judicial declaration to recognise the leader of a sect as *Paramatma,* to whom everyone should pay obeisance. The petitioner, who appeared in person, urged the court to direct the citizens to accept Sri Sri Anukul Chandra as the "Supreme Spirit". He had approached the court under Article 32 of the Constitution. "India is a secular country. The citizens of India may accept whatever they choose to believe in. You go ahead and believe in it. Let others believe what they want to," Justice M.R. Shah chastised the petitioner.

New leaders given charge of Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh Cong.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday appointed new leaders to be in charge of Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Haryana. Ajay Maken has been relieved of his charge from Rajasthan at a time when the Bharat Jodo Yatra has entered the State and has been replaced by Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa. Kumari Selja, has been made the new in-charge for Chhattisgarh by relieving P.L. Punia. Rajya Sabha member from Gujarat Shaktisinh Gohil has been given the additional charge of Haryana in addition to Delhi and Vivek Bansal has been relieved of his Haryana charge.

Let history of the Taj Mahal continue as it is, says SC

A petition to unearth the "correct history" and age of the Taj Mahal was declined by the Supreme Court on Monday, which said the history of the world heritage mausoleum should be allowed to continue as it has been known for several centuries. "As far as your demand to order an enquiry into the age of the Taj Mahal, I don't even know my age... So let it be," Justice M.R. Shah said in a lighter vein. The petition said the "original" history of the Taj Mahal in Persian has been lost. Children were learning the wrong history about the white-marbled structure built in the 17th century in Agra on the order of Mughal emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his favourite wife, the petitioner said.

India, Germany ink pact on migration; Jaishankar defends buying Russian oil

External Affairs Minister says the agreement is meant to ease travel for research, study and work for people in both countries and will serve as the basis for a more contemporary partnership

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

India's consumption of Russian oil is just one-sixth of European consumption and should not be compared unfavourably, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said in his talks with visiting German Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock on Monday, defending the government's decision to increase the intake of Russian oil since the war in Ukraine.

Ms. Baerbock's visit coincided with the launch of an "oil price cap" plan by the G-7 and European Union countries to withdraw shipping and insurance services to countries that buy Russian oil above the price of $60 a barrel.

"In the months following the Ukraine war, European countries have imported more Russian fossil fuel than the next 10 countries combined," Mr. Jaishankar said, when asked by a German journalist if India would consider decreasing oil imports, especially as it assumes G-20 Presidency.

Strong ties: S. Jaishankar and Annalena Baerbock discussed several bilateral issues at their meeting on Monday. PTI

At the end of talks, India and Germany signed a comprehensive partnership on migration and mobility meant to ease travel for research, study and work for people in both countries. Mr. Jaishankar said it would be the "basis for a more contemporary partnership" to relations.

The two sides said they held talks on bilateral issues, including Germany's assistance to India on renewable energy and energy transitions, as well as international issues such as their Indo-Pacific strategy, and spoke about China, Afghanistan and Pakistan. However, the two governments did not appear to make any headway on the contentious issue of 22-month old "Baby Ariha".

Ariha Shah was taken into childcare by German authorities in September 2021, alleging that she had been abused at home, a charge her father and mother deny. While the criminal investigation was closed without charges against the parents, the German Youth Welfare Department has decided not to release the child to the parents until a court adjudicates the custody case.

"Our embassy is pursuing the matter but it was also a matter I brought up with the Minister," Mr. Jaishankar said during a press conference with Ms. Baerbock.

Mr. Jaishankar said that he had also spoken about the challenge of cross-border terrorism from Pakistan. "We engage Pakistan on bilateral issues, but the challenge is today that we cannot have talks while there is terrorism, and I think there was some understanding from the German side on this," he said.

Ms. Baerbock had clarified her remarks calling for a United Nations role in Jammu and Kashmir, human rights concerns and in mediating between India and Pakistan, telling *The Hindu* in an interview that Germany believes India and Pakistan must resolve their issues bilaterally.

ILO meet begins today, D-G calls for social security for all

A.M. Jigeesh
SINGAPORE

Gilbert F. Houngbo pitches for inclusive social dialogue and the strengthening of tripartism

"Integrated policy agenda for a human-centred recovery that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient" is the theme of the 17th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting (APRM) of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) beginning here on Tuesday.

In his report on the theme, ILO Director-General Gilbert F. Houngbo has called for strengthening tripartism and social dialogue to address issues in employment in the region.

Mr. Houngbo also pitched for strong and effective gender-responsive policies and institutions of work that are oriented towards a human-centred recovery after the pandemic and the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine. He asked governments in the region to increase investments in social justice for the achievement of decent job-rich growth, universal social protection, respect for rights at work and inclusive social dialogue.

Minister of State for Labour Rameswar Teli and Secretary Arti Ahuja will represent India.

Mr. Houngbo said in his report that "the Russian aggression" against Ukraine has led to "major new disruptions to energy and food supply chains as well as inflation, with impacts that are filtering down to the Asia and the Pacific and the Arab States regions, adversely impacting the prospects for labour market recovery."

The report added that in the absence of effective institutionalised support, households relied on limited savings to meet basic needs or went into debt.

In times marked by economic, social and environmental crises, he said governments and social partners must not miss the opportunity to join forces and channel investments towards a human-centred recovery, while "gradually removing longer-term structural barriers to decent work and inclusive growth".

Drugs and spurious liquor will finish off Punjab youth, says SC

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Unbridled flow of drugs and spurious liquor will "finish off" the youth of the border State of Punjab and then the entire country, the Supreme Court warned the Punjab government on Monday.

The court said the State had to issue circulars making the local police responsible for presence of units making spurious liquor.

"Consumption of drugs is increasing... The youth will be finished. If somebody wants to finish off the country... This is a border State. Every action has to be taken or it will be very easy to finish the youth by drugs and liquor, and then the country," Justice M.R. Shah, heading a Bench including Justice C.T. Ravikumar, addressed the Punjab government, represented by senior advocate Ajit Kumar Sinha. Mr. Sinha acknowledged the situation was "alarming", and asked the court to indicate its oral observations in the order.

To this, the Bench retorted that the government was running the State and not the court.

"Stringent action has to be taken. Over 34,000 FIRs have been registered in two years... but only FIRs are filed. What about chargesheets? Illegal liquor and its transportation have to be curbed. It has to be stopped," Justice Shah observed.

"People who take it [spurious liquor] are poor labourers after a hard day's work to ease their pain... This is very unfortunate," Justice Shah said.

The court directed the State to file a detailed affidavit on what further steps it was going to take to control the situation.

India restores e-visas for Britons under five categories

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

India has restored e-visas for Britons wanting to visit the country, Indian High Commissioner to the U.K., Vikram Doraiswami, said on Monday. The facility, which had been available since 2014 for five categories of travel including tourism and business, was suspended for all countries during the COVID-19 pandemic and had not been restored for the citizens of the U.K. and some other countries.

The curtailment of e-visas and difficulties getting visa appointments had frustrated travel plans for Britons, including planned family visits to India. Two additional visa centres had been opened in the U.K. – one in Glasgow and second in London in October and November, respectively – to handle the growing backlog of applications.

Four babies die in Chhattisgarh hospital in span of 3 hours

Shubhomoy Sikdar
BHOPAL

Families allege that a power interruption in the special neonatal care unit caused the deaths

In an alleged case of medical negligence, four newborn babies died in the special neonatal care unit (SNCU) of a government hospital in Surguja district of Chhattisgarh on Monday.

While the parents of the deceased said that a power interruption caused the deaths, the government has *prima facie* ruled out the possibility and has ordered a probe to "investigate all angles, including electrical problems".

The deaths occurred between 5.30 a.m. and 8.30 a.m. at the Government Medical College Hospital (GMCH) in Ambikapur, around 300 km from Raipur, District Collector Kundan Kumar said.

Gaurav Kumar Singh, a resident of Bishrampur, whose daughter (born on December 1 and one of the two babies who was on ventilator support) died, said there was power interruption which caused the deaths.

The administration has said that at least 30 to 35 children are under treatment in the SNCU.

GMCH Medical College Dean Dr. R. Murthy denied these allegations.

However, when pressed further about the ambit of the probe, Dr. Murthy said even electrical fault would be investigated.

State Health Minister T.S. Singh Deo has directed the Health Secretary to constitute a team to probe the incident.

President approves new Crest of Indian Navy

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The President has approved the introduction of a new design for the President's Standard and Colour and Indian Navy Crest, which were unveiled at Visakhapatnam on Navy Day on Sunday.

"The new design of President's Standard and Colour highlights India's glorious maritime heritage and symbolises proud Indian Navy," the Navy said.

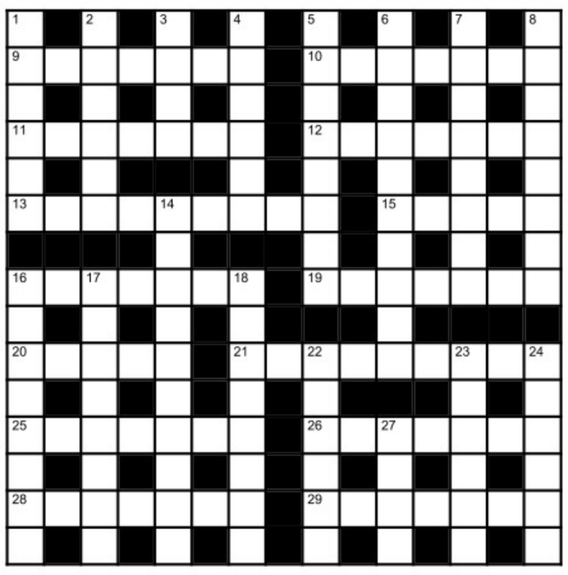
The Navy Crest has been amended to replace the foul anchor with a clear anchor.

TH CROSSWORD + 13729

(set by Arden)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

9 Grunting while connecting, lost a pound for nothing (7)
10 She was called back having left her man after a hair cut (7)
11 Source cut off - accepting a month's paperwork (7)
12 Being old, doddering Democrat leaves base (7)
13 A day time incursion by troops at regular intervals needs modification (9)
15 Wish to go back to covering conservative era (5)
16 Small group, that's half the midnight meeting of witches (7)
19 A creature figured time after time in Herald (7)
20 With bugaboo no time for boo-boo (5)
21 Most of the book is about pressure on middle class (9)
25 Girl having perfect figure - a dish, really! (7)
26 One learning armature winding right away (7)
28 Girl gets around as they fly away to sea (7)
29 Inner rings found in female deer or some dogs (7)

Down

1 A degree allows to go, raise some capital (6)
2 Raw, in pure form (6)
3 A clue to pick up some bread (4)
4 Surprising resignation - without arson can start the fire (6)
5 After a day wind picks up, stick to the middle of the sea (8)
6 Goofing up below, wearing cheap jewellery (10)
7 A volume measure in short is a birth defect (8)
8 Another three hours in short for farm machinery (8)
14 Not right pistol to carry - lady exposed as an imposter (4,6)
16 She stops girl's entry into parties... (8)
17 ...except one drinking vermouth (8)
18 Linguist's support to stop crime (8)
22 Huge pandal in the centre of the land (6)
23 One born, not named to become a king (6)
24 Starts slowly, one reaches expected speed thereafter - it's extremely painful (6)
27 Skin condition - one without name (4)

SUDOKU

8					2			
2		1		6		5		
							7	8
7			4		9		8	
	3			2			5	
	4		1		8			7
1	8							
		5		8		4		6
			3					5

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

No.SS5640 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

9	6	5	8	7	3	2	4	1
1	3	4	2	6	9	8	7	5
7	2	8	5	4	1	9	3	6
3	8	9	1	5	4	6	2	7
2	5	7	9	3	6	4	1	8
4	1	6	7	2	8	5	9	3
5	9	3	6	1	2	7	8	4
6	4	2	3	8	7	1	5	9
8	7	1	4	9	5	3	6	2

FAITH

Kartigai, time to introspect

There is a popular misconception that one should light deepams (diyas) on the day of Kartigai Deepam alone and celebrate it as a festival. However, one has to light a lamp at dusk throughout the Tamil month of Kartigai, and introspect on one's behaviour. It is the month of annual self-assessment of one's conduct in this world whereby one hopes to reach God's feet, said Dhamal Ramakrishnan in a discourse.

It is the month in which Vaishnavite saints Tiruppanazhwar and Tirumangai Azhwar were born. It is the only time of the year when Lord Nrusimha offers darshan with his eyes open at the famous temple in Sholingur, near Vellore.

Astronomically, it is the time of the year when the impact of the sun's radiation is comparatively less in this part of the world, but that is not the reason why one lights lamps. The lamp signifies kindness, the oil denotes fame or recognition of a person by others in this world, the wick symbolises humility. All three in conjunction result in the light. This alone can lead one to an inherently peaceful life and think of God. The basis for this is the lamp, or kindness. The Kural says, "*Anbilar ellam thamakuriyar, anbudaiyan enbum uriyar pirarkku*" - meaning, those who lack kindness will covet everything for themselves, whereas those who have the quality of kindness will say whatever they have belongs to all. Everything stems from the basic premise of kindness to everything and everyone on earth.

Tirumoolar puts this in perfect context when he says the lamp is the self-assessment tool of your good deeds.

SEOUL

S. Korea accuses North of firing artillery barrage into buffer zone

AP

North Korea fired a barrage of artillery shells into a maritime buffer zone on Monday, Seoul's military said, the latest in a series of launches by an increasingly belligerent Pyongyang. About 130 artillery rounds were simultaneously fired at 1129 IMT from two separate sites, the South's Joint Chiefs of Staff said. AFP

JERUSALEM

Israeli Army kills Palestinian man during an arrest raid in West Bank

REUTERS

Israeli forces shot dead a Palestinian man on Monday when clashes broke out during an arrest raid in the occupied West Bank, official sources on both sides said. The Palestinian Prisoners' Club advocacy group said the victim was a 22-year-old man and said 14 others were arrested in overnight raids across the West Bank. AFP

SYDNEY

Australia begins work on its radio telescope to solve space mysteries

AFP

Australia started building a network of antennas which planners say will become one of the most powerful radio telescopes. When complete, these antennas and a network of dishes in South Africa will form the Square Kilometre Array, a massive instrument that will untangle mysteries about the creation of stars and galaxies. AFP

DOHA

UAE leader visits Qatar for first time since end of 4-year blockade

AFP

The UAE President made his first visit to Qatar since the end of a four-year regional blockade that put ties in a deep freeze. Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al-Nahyan was greeted by Qatar's Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani at the airport and left after a lunch in a trip that coincided with the football World Cup in Qatar. AFP

Ruling Nepali Congress emerges as largest party

The ruling party has won 57 seats under direct voting, while the CPN-UML came second with 44 seats; the latter has won the largest number of votes under the proportionate system

Press Trust of India
KATHMANDU

Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba's Nepali Congress emerged as the largest party by winning 57 seats in Nepal's parliamentary election as the counting of votes under the direct system concluded on Monday, brightening the party's chances of forming the new government.

Elections to the House of Representatives (HoR) and seven provincial Assemblies were held on November 20 to end the prolonged political instability that has plagued the Himalayan nation. The counting of votes started a day later.

In the 275-member House, 165 will be elected through direct voting, while the remaining 110 will be elected by a proportional electoral system. A party or a coalition needs 138 seats for a majority.

New dawn: Elections to the House of Representatives and seven provincial Assemblies were held on November 20. AP

According to Nepal's Election Commission, the Nepali Congress has won 57 seats under direct voting, the Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist) (CPN-UML) has secured 44 seats, while the CPN-Maoist Centre and CPN-Unified Socialist have emerged victorious on 18 and 10 seats, respectively.

Similarly, the Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP), the Rastriya Prajatantra Party (RPP) and the Janata Samajwadi Party (JSP) have won seven seats each. Likewise, the Loktantrik Samajwadi Party and Nagarik Unmukti Party have won four and three seats, respectively, it said.

Rastriya Janamorcha, Nepal Workers and Peasants Party and Janamat Party have won one seat each. The independent candidates have won five seats, it added.

The counting of votes for all 165 HoR seats under the direct voting method has ended, Election Commission spokesperson Shaligram Poudyal said.

However, the vote counting under the proportionate voting system for two constituencies is still going on, the official said.

Under the proportionate voting system, the CPN-UML has won the highest number of votes 27,91,734, followed by the Nepali Congress with 26,66,262.

Labour will abolish 'indefensible' House of Lords, says Keir Starmer

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

Britain's Labour party officially announced plans on Monday to abolish the country's unelected legislative chamber, the House of Lords, and replace it with an elected chamber, if the party is elected. The announcement was included in a larger report of 40 proposals, titled, 'A New Britain: Renewing Our Democracy and Rebuilding Our Economy', written by a commission led by former U.K. Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

"Look, I think the House of Lords is indefensible. Anybody who looks at the House of Lords would struggle to say that it should be kept," Labour leader Keir Starmer, who commissioned the report, told the BBC on Monday morning.

Currently the House of Lords, which traces its origins back to the 11th century, consists of life peers, 'spiritual' peers (church officials) and hereditary peers.

Keir Starmer commissioned the report that made 40 proposals on political reforms.

New powers

While the official announcement was made on Monday, Labour's plans, including those for the House of Lords, were already public after a draft report was leaked to the British press in September.

The Brown report recommended that a smaller 'Assembly of the Nations and Regions' replace the House of Lords.

It also recommended new powers for Scotland and Wales. For Northern Ireland, the report calls for "restored and strengthened" devolution that is consistent with the Good Friday Agreement (i.e., the 1998 peace treaty for the region).

Monday's report also outlined plans to send 50,000 government jobs out of London and across the U.K., which it says will save £200 million per year. It recommended that Scotland be allowed to join international bodies and participate in international agreements.

Stopping short of committing to implementing them during the first term of a Labour government, Mr. Starmer said all the recommendations would be implemented as "quickly as possible" and that all the recommendations were written in a way that they could be implemented with the first five years of a Labour government.

Speaking at the University of Leeds on Monday morning, Mr. Starmer said there will now be a period of consultation which will determine when and how the recommendations can be implemented.

The parliamentary leader of Welsh nationalist party Plaid Cymru, Liz Saville Roberts, criticised the proposed difference in devolved powers for Scotland and Wales.

Underwhelming plan

"Scotland is rewarded while Labour is content for Wales to make do and mend with piecemeal powers," she said, according to the BBC.

Deputy leader of Scottish National Party (SNP) Keith Brown called the proposed plan "underwhelming" as per reports in the British press and accused Labour of "vague platitudes and empty promises".

Pakistan embassy attack suspect held

Associated Press
ISLAMABAD

A member of the militant Islamic State group has been arrested in last week's shooting attack targeting the Pakistani Embassy in Afghanistan's capital of Kabul, the spokesman of the Taliban government said.

The attack, in which shots were fired at the embassy from a nearby building, triggered anger in Pakistan, and increased tensions between the two South Asian neighbors.

The regional affiliate of the Islamic State group, known as the Islamic State in Khorasan Province and a rival of Afghanistan's ruling Taliban, has claimed responsibility for Friday's attack.

The Islamic State group said two of its fighters attacked "the renegade Pakistani ambassador and his guards" while they were inside the embassy's yard.

Mujahid said the suspect is a foreign national and that the attack was organized jointly by IS and "rebels," apparently a reference to anti-Taliban groups in Afghanistan.

'No change to Iran women's plight'

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

Iranian activists and Western nations on Monday dismissed a claim that the protest-hit Islamic republic is disbanding its notorious morality police, insisting there was no change to women's rights.

There were also calls on social media for a three-day strike in Iran, culminating on Wednesday on the annual Student Day, nearly three months into a nationwide wave of unrest sparked by the death in custody of Kurdish-Iranian woman Mahsa Amini.

Status quo: Activists seek a complete overhaul of restrictions on women's dress and the laws controlling citizens' private lives. AFP

"Nothing we have seen suggests Iran's leadership is improving its treatment of women and girls or ceasing the violence it inflicts on peaceful protesters," the U.S. State Department said.

Germany's Foreign Ministry said Iranian protesters "want to live freely and in self-determination", and disbanding the morality police, "if it is implemented, won't change that".

In a surprise move over the weekend, Iran's Prosecutor General Mohammad Jafar Montazeri was quoted as saying that the morality police units – known formally as *Gasht-e Ershad* (Guidance Patrol) – had been closed down.

But campaigners were sceptical about his comments, which appeared to be an impromptu response to a question at a conference rather than a clearly signposted announcement by the interior ministry.

"Unless they remove all legal restrictions on women's dress and the laws controlling citizens' private lives, this is just a PR move," Roya Boroumand, co-founder of the U.S.-based rights group, said.

Chinese cities step out of zero-COVID policy

Agence France-Presse
BEIJING

Businesses reopened and testing requirements were relaxed in Beijing and other Chinese cities on Monday as the country tentatively eases out of a strict zero-COVID policy that sparked nationwide protests.

Local authorities across China have begun a slow rollback of the restrictions that have governed daily life for years, encouraged by the central government's orders for a new approach to fighting the coronavirus.

In the capital Beijing, where many businesses have fully reopened, commuters from Monday were no longer required to show a negative virus test taken within 48 hours to use public transport.

Financial hub Shanghai – which underwent a brutal two-month lockdown this year – extended this measure to most public places except medical institutions, schools, restaurants and bars, nursing homes, and indoor entertainment venues, starting from Tuesday.

Acclaimed French author Dominique Lapierre dies at 91

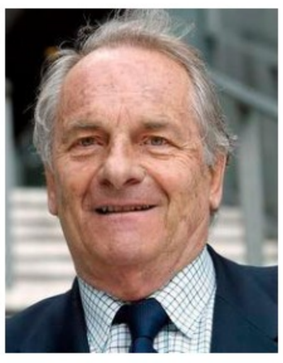
Agence France-Presse
MARSEILLE

French writer Dominique Lapierre, the author of best-selling books on India like *Freedom at Midnight* and *City of Joy* and whose novels sold tens of millions of copies, has died.

"At 91, he died of old age," his wife Dominique Conchon-Lapierre told the French newspaper *Var-Matin* on Sunday.

She added that she is "at peace and serene since Dominique is no longer suffering".

Born on July 30, 1931, in Chatelaillon, Lapierre has sold about 50 million copies of the six books he wrote in collaboration with the American writer Larry Collins – the most famous being *Is Paris Burning?*



Dominique Lapierre

The non-fiction book published in 1965 chronicled the events leading up to August 1944, when Nazi Germany surrendered control of the French capital, and was adapted for the silver screen by Francis Ford Coppola and Gore Vidal.

The duo specialised in highly researched dramatisations of historical events, such as the creation of Israel (*O Jerusalem*, 1972) and the Indian Independence movement in *Freedom at Midnight* (1975) – largely considered a moving and seminal account of the partition of India.

His 1985 novel *City of Joy* – about the hardships of a rickshaw puller in Kolkata – was also a massive success. A movie based on it was released in 1992, starring Patrick Swayze and directed by Roland Joffe.

Lapierre donated the bulk of his royalties from *City of Joy* to support humanitarian projects in India.

Sri Lanka seeks India's help to boost dairy output

Meera Srinivasan
COLOMBO

In a bid to scale up its dairy production to become self-sufficient, Sri Lanka has sought technical assistance from India's National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and market leader Amul, reviving a collaboration that the island attempted in the late 1990s, but failed to take forward.

Officials from Sri Lanka's Agriculture Ministry and National Livestock Development Board held a "preliminary discussion" with visiting Indian authorities from the NDDB, the President's media division said on Monday.

President Ranil Wickremesinghe has appointed a committee with representatives from Sri Lanka's public and private sectors, to work with the NDDB and "prepare a short, medium and long-term plan to increase local milk production to reduce the country's dependence on imported milk powder", his office said in a statement.

Costly affair: With living expenses soaring through the year, milk products remain out of reach for many poor families. GETTY IMAGES

The partnership is not new to Sri Lanka, where former president Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga invited India's "milk man" Verghese Kurien to set up the 'Kiriya' dairy project, named after the Sinhala word for milk. A $20 million joint venture between the NDDB and Sri Lanka's MILCO was announced, but the project did not take off, in the wake of resistance from nationalist worker unions and powerful business lobbies in Sri Lanka.

Reliance on imports

Currently, Sri Lanka's domestic dairy production meets less than half of its requirements. The dollar-strapped island nation spends about $300 million annually on dairy imports, mostly from New Zealand. As the country's economy crashed earlier this year, leading to severe shortages, milk powder – widely used in Sri Lanka where fresh milk is scarce – was unavailable to most.

With living costs soaring through the year, milk products, locally produced or imported, remain out of reach for many poor families. They have been forced to ration their dairy intake, with adults switching to plain tea and children drinking milk fewer times a day. UHT milk costs nearly LKR 500 (roughly ₹111) a litre, while 1 kg of milk powder rose to LKR 1300 this year (about ₹290).

New Zealand deal

Apart from India, Sri Lanka is also exploring greater collaboration with New Zealand, its main source of dairy imports for four decades now. According to a Colombo-based official, New Zealand's dairy cooperative, Fonterra, has in recent years expanded its Sri Lanka business. It has been building partnerships with Sri Lankan farmers, and "is considering how to expand this when conditions allow", the official said.

INBRIEF

Adani is now NDTV's biggest shareholder after open offer

The Adani group on Monday raised its stake in New Delhi Television Ltd. (NDTV) to more than 37% via an open offer, making it the biggest shareholder of the news network. Although the group was looking to take 26% stake in NDTV, the open offer attracted bids for just 5.3 million shares, translating to an 8.3% interest in the television news company. REUTERS

TVS Motor Co. promoter entity sells 25.69 lakh shares

A promoter entity of TVS Motor Company on Monday offloaded 25.69 lakh shares of the firm for ₹262 crore via the open market. Srinivasan Trust sold 25,69,726 shares, or 0.54% stake in the firm, according to BSE bulk deal data. The shares were disposed of at an average price of ₹1,020.03. At the end of September, Srinivasan Trust held 0.54% stake in the company, shareholding data with the exchange showed. TVS Motor shares fell 3.01% to ₹1,017.75 apiece on the BSE. PTI

Post merger, Shriram Finance becomes 'largest retail NBFC'

Shriram Transport Finance and Shriram City Union Finance Ltd. have been merged to form Shriram Finance Ltd. Post the merger, Shriram Finance said it had become the largest retail NBFC in India with a robust net worth of ₹40,900 crore and Assets under Management of ₹1,71,000 crore. The growth strategy for the company will be focused on driving the self-employed and the MSME economy, Shriram Finance said in a statement. Jugal Kishor Mohapatra has been named as the chairman and Maya Sinha appointed as an independent director.

PMI signals upbeat services, overseas orders post revival

Stiff cost pressures compel firms to raise prices at fastest pace since July 2017, the 21st consecutive month when services companies have raised charges, S&P Global India Services PMI survey shows

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The services sector continued to rebound in November, logging its fastest output growth in three months as new orders accrued at the highest pace since August, as per the S&P Global India Services Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI), which rose to 56.4 from 55.1 in October.

However, input costs rose at the second-fastest rate since July, which compelled providers to raise charges to consumers at the steepest rate in 64 months. This is the 21st consecutive month that services firms have raised charges on account of higher costs. Besides transportation costs, firms mentioned higher prices for energy, food, plastic and electrical products.

Riding a wave

Services businesses remained buoyant as demand for contact-intensive activities gained momentum

- S&P Global India Services PMI rose to 56.4 in November
- Output grew the fastest in 3 months, with new orders accruing at the highest pace since August
- New business from abroad clocked its first uptick since onset of COVID-19 in early 2020
- Job creation in service economy at its strongest in more than three years

Significantly, new business from overseas clocked its first uptick in November since the onset of COVID-19 in early 2020, even though overall rate of expansion in new orders was mild.

The demand buoyancy along with sharp improvements in business confidence lifted job creation, with new employment rising at a 'solid pace that was among the quickest in over three years'.

"Service providers were at their most upbeat towards the year-ahead outlook... in just under eight years," S&P Global said.

G7 oil price cap kicks in, Russia 'will only sell at market price'

Reuters
BRUSSELS

The Group of Seven price cap on Russian seaborne oil came into force on Monday as the West tries to limit Moscow's ability to finance its war in Ukraine, but Russia has said it would not abide by the measure even if it has to cut production.

The price cap, to be enforced by the G7 nations, the European Union and Australia, allows Russian oil to be shipped to countries using G7 and EU tankers, insurance companies and credit institutions, only if the cargo is bought at or below the price cap.

As the world's key shipping and insurance firms are based in G7 countries, the cap could make it difficult for Moscow to sell its oil for a higher price.

Russia, the world's second-largest oil exporter, said on Sunday it would not accept the cap and would not sell oil that is subject to it, even if it has to cut output.

Selling oil and gas to Europe has been one of the main sources of Russian forex earnings. Such a decree would ban oil exports to countries and firms that apply the cap.

With the price cap at $60 per barrel, not far below the $67 at which Russian crude closed on Friday, the EU and G7 expect Russia will still have an incentive to continue selling oil at that price, while accepting smaller profits.

Tata group's Air India to lease 12 more aircraft

Reuters
NEW DELHI

Tata group-owned carrier Air India said on Monday it would lease 12 more Airbus and Boeing aircraft, days after the Indian conglomerate announced the airline's merger with Vistara.

The aircraft, expected to be inducted in the first half of 2023, are in addition to the 30 leased earlier this year. The merger with Vistara, its JV with Singapore Airlines, will strengthen its presence in local and international markets.

PAN could become single ID for investment approvals: Goyal

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Investors may soon no longer have to fill in multiple identity details for accessing the National Single Window System for project-related clearances and approvals with the government likely to make the Permanent Account Number (PAN) issued by the Income Tax department a single-point identifier.

A proposal to this effect is in the works and will be notified once it is approved by the Finance Ministry, sparing investors the burden of uploading details of multiple identity numbers, such as Director Identification Number, for a project.

Piyush Goyal

"We are trying to integrate data collection with a single time entry of critical information and using existing database available with the government," Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Monday.

"Most likely that will be the PAN number, with which a lot of basic data like the company's details, its directors, GST numbers, is already available," he added.

"That will eliminate a lot of duplication that people have to do while applying for different licences, and data which is most times already available with the PAN Number, will help auto-populate other application forms that are received, and help speed up approvals and encourage more companies to apply," Mr. Goyal said.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	MONDAY	%CHANGE
Sensex	62,835	-0.05
US Dollar	81.85	-0.63
Gold	54,386	0.35
Brent oil	85.02	–

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	3930.40	7.90
Adani Ports	893.15	4.95
Apollo Hosp	4778.35	-93.10
Asian Paints	3156.90	13.45
Axis Bank	899.20	-5.95
Bajaj Auto	3659.90	0.55
Bajaj Finserv	1634.20	-8.45
Bajaj Finance	6660.45	-15.30
Bharti Airtel	844.10	-4.55
BPCL	338.40	-2.70
Britannia Ind	4403.35	-29.55
Cipla	1115.35	1.00
Coal India	231.25	4.65
Divis Lab	3368.85	-12.40
Dr Reddys Lab	4479.40	-31.00
Eicher Motors	3344.40	12.55
Grasim Ind	1816.15	-3.50
HCL Tech	1130.85	-4.70
HDFC	2675.80	10.50
HDFC Bank	1612.95	5.85
HDFC Life	588.90	-0.95
Hero MotoCorp	2827.65	7.20
Hindalco	481.20	20.10
Hind Unilever	2619.85	4.75
ICICI Bank	933.60	3.00
IndusInd Bank	1195.50	16.80
Infosys	1639.75	1.85
ITC	336.75	-0.40
JSW Steel	756.60	13.55
Kotak Bank	1938.45	7.65
L&T	2085.60	0.10
M&M	1259.80	-4.80
Maruti Suzuki	8792.05	-23.80
NestleIndia	19752.20	1.00
NTPC	175.15	3.00
ONGC	143.75	2.85
PowerGrid Corp	221.90	2.10
Reliance Ind	2682.45	-39.70
SBI Life	1284.55	-10.60
State Bank	617.30	9.75
Sun Pharma	1039.40	-0.60
TataConsumerProduct	800.50	4.95
Tata Motors	428.75	-6.65
Tata Steel	115.85	3.85
TCS	3425.90	-13.25
Tech Mahindra	1099.75	-15.00
Titan	2615.65	-2.25
UltraTech Cement	7198.60	-38.45
UPL	802.80	19.10
Wipro	412.35	-0.05

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on December 05

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	81.59	81.91
Euro	85.92	86.29
British Pound	99.88	100.28
Japanese Yen (100)	60.29	60.53
Chinese Yuan	11.73	11.78
Swiss Franc	87.16	87.51
Singapore Dollar	60.42	60.67
Canadian Dollar	60.75	60.99
Malaysian Ringitt	18.67	18.76
Australian Dollar	55.50	55.73

Source:Indian Bank

Discoms' total FY22 AT&C losses slid to 17%

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Aggregate technical and commercial (AT&C) losses of power distribution utilities declined to 17% in 2021-22 from 22% a year earlier.

Reduction in AT&C losses improves finances of utilities (discoms), enabling them to better maintain the system and buy power as per requirement and benefit the consumers, the Power Ministry said in a statement.

The AT&C loss and ACS-ARR (Average Cost of Supply-Average Realisable Revenue) gap are key indicators of discoms' performance.

The Ministry of Power has taken a number of measures to improve utilities' performance, it said. The cut in AT&C losses has resulted in narrowing the gap between the ACS and the ARR. The ACS-ARR gap has declined from ₹0.69/kWh in FY21 to ₹0.22/kWh in fiscal year 2022.

The Ministry also decided that any future assistance to strengthen distribution systems will be available to a loss-making discom only if it undertakes to bring AT&C losses /ACS-ARR gap down to specified levels within a specific timeframe.

India eyes access for more goods to Russia

Reuters
NEW DELHI

Jaishankar said India gave a list of Indian products to Moscow for entry into the Russian markets

India gave a list of Indian products to Moscow for access to Russian markets, Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar said on Monday, as his country seeks to narrow a growing trade deficit with Russia at a time when Moscow faces acute shortages of some crucial materials following Western sanctions.

Reuters had reported that Moscow had sent India a list of more than 500 products for potential delivery, including parts for cars, aircraft and trains, as sanctions following Russia's invasion of Ukraine squeeze its ability to keep vital industries running.

Russia has been India's largest supplier of military equipment for decades and it is the fourth-biggest market for Indian pharmaceuticals.

Rebalancing trade

But with India's purchases of Russian oil soaring and coal and fertilizer shipments strong, the South Asian nation is looking to rebalance trade.

"We have given Russians a set of products which we believe we are very competitive in and which we feel should be getting access to the Russian market," Mr. Jaishankar told reporters in a briefing with his German counterpart Annalena Baerbock.

Kodagu Institute of Medical Sciences, Madikeri
(Government of Karnataka - Reg Autonous Institute)
Phone : 08272-220606 Website : www.kimskodagu.kar.nic.in
Ref: No. KOIMS:SUP:154:2022-23: Date: 01-12-2022

MEDICAL BOOKS EXHIBITION NOTIFICATION

Kodagu Institute of Medical Sciences, Madikeri is intending to Purchase Books for UG (MBBS) & PG in this connection Book Exhibition is being held in the Premises on 20.12.2022 - 21.12.2022 from 9.00am to 4.30PM, Publishers & Authorized Distributors are invited to exhibit books in the exhibition, in this regard confirm your participation to the below e-mail ID before 15.12.2022 by 4.00 PM

e-mail: directormckodagu@gmail.com / librarykoims@gmail.com

Sd/- Director & Dean
Kodagu Institute of Medical Sciences, Madikeri

Government of Karnataka
(Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Department)
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Division, Shivamogga

Short-term Tender Notification (Through e-procurement)

No.:ಕಾಇಂ:ಗ್ರಾಕುನೀ&ನೈಳ:ವಿಶಿ:ಕಿ.ಇಂ–1:MVS : MULTI-VILLAGE WATER SUPPLY SCHEME TO ANJANAPURA & OTHER 198 HABITATIONS OF SHIKARIPURA TALUK IN SHIVAMOGGA DISTRICT ON DBOT BASIS UNDER JAL JEEVAN MISSION; E-Proc:2022-23:1845 Date: 02.12.2022

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka and as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 2000, item-war tenders are invited from the contractors registered in Panchayat Raj Engineering Dept/ Public Works Dept upto 2020-25 (Class 1 and above) through Standard Tender Document of Work KW-4 for the works of Multi-Village Water Supply Scheme to Anjanapura and other 198 Habitations of Shikaripura Taluk in Shivamogga District on DBOT basis under Jal Jeevan Mission in Sagar Taluk coming under the limits of Rural Drinking Water & Sanitation Department, Shivamogga District. Those who are paying the cost of forms and EMD in e-payment may be paid through Credit/Debit cards.

(1) Pre-bid meeting date and place : **On 09.12.2022 at 11.30 A M at Chief Engineer's Office, Cauvery Bhavan, KHB Building, Bengaluru.** (2) The last date for submission of filled-in application through e-procurement: **17.12.2022 upto 4.00 P M** (3) Date of opening of Technical bid : **19.12.2022 at 11.00 A M** (4) Date of opening of Financial bid : **21.12.2022 at 11.00 A.M.** (5) Time for completion of works : **18 months.** If one of the above dates happens to be declared a general holiday, the next working day will be considered. Tender details, conditions and corrigendum or changes can be obtained in the official website https://www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.

Indent No. : **RWSSD/2022-23/WS/WORK_INDENT49638** Name of the works : **MULTI-VILLAGE WATER SUPPLY SCHEME TO ANJANAPURA & OTHER 198 HABITATIONS OF SHIKARIPURA TALUK IN SHIVAMOGGA DISTRICT,ON DBOT BASIS UNDER JAL JEEVAN MISSION.** Amount put to tender (Rs in lakhs): **22592.21** EMD amount (in Rs) : **22600000/-** Time for completion of works **: 18 months.**

sd/- Executive Engineer,
Rural Drinking Water and Sanitation Division, Shivamogga
DIPR/SMG/No.41-12/zenkar/2022-23

Government of Karnataka
TOWN PANCHAYAT, NALATAWAD
No: TPN/PWD/SFC/SPL/T.N/2022-23 Date:03.12.2022

E-Procurement Tender Notifiation

The Chief Officer Town Panchayat Nalatawad has invited Item rate tender from eligible KPWD registered Contractors for the work detailed in the table below, taken under SFC Special Grant 2022-23. The tender is through e-procurement portal only as per KTPP -2000 in two cover system. For any further details please contact e-procurement portal **http//www.eproc.karanataka.gov.in** or Town Panchayat Nalatawad in Office hours.

Name of Work: **Construction of CC road in W.No 1 2 3 6 7 8 9 11 12 14 and Construction of CC Drain in W No 12 and 13 in Nalatawad town DMA/2022-23/OW/WORK_INDENT143121.** Approximate Value of work Rs. **195.27** Lakhs. EMD Amount Rs. **2.93 Lakhs.** Time period: 6 Months

01. Last date for Submission of tender through e- portal : **21.12.2022 Up to 4-30 PM**

02. Date of opening of the Technical bids : **22.12.2022 @ 5.00 PM**

03. Date of opening of the Financial bids : **30.12.2022 @ 5.00 PM**

04. If any of above mentioned dates are declared as Govt. holidays, the next working day will be considered.

Sd/- **Chief Officer** **Town Panchayat Nalatawad**
Sd/- **Administrator** **Town Panchayat Nalatawad**
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/634/ಎಂಸಿಎ/2022–23

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
OFFICE OF THE, Executive Engineer, KNNL, R & R Divn. Athani – 591 304
No./KNNL/RandR/Division/PB/TND//2022-23/ 1348 Date: 03-12-2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (THROUGH "e-Procurement" ONLY)

Electronic percentage tender through e-procurement platform in single & two cover system is invited by the Executive Engineer KNNL R &R Division, Atahni on behalf of the Managing Director Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited, 4th Floor, Coffee Board Building No:1 Dr. B.R Ambedkar Veedhi, Bangalore-01 for the work of 1) Improvements to Road from Junjurawad to Tubachi Road from CH.0.00 o 0.70Km in Athani Taluka belagavi Dist. (Indent No. 34681) 2) Construction of Sopanam to the Krishna River near (1) Hulagabali Village (2) Nadi-Ingalagoun Village in Athani Taluka, Dist. Belagavi (I.No.34682) 3) Construction of Samu day Bhavan For Bashweshwar Temple at Chikkud Village, Athani Taluk, Dist Belgaum (I.No.34697) 1) The blank tender documents can be obtained and uploaded through E-pocurement between 06-15-2022 @ 10.30 AM to 15-12-2022 upto 4.00 PM. 2) Last date for tender queries 14-12-2022 upto 4:00 pm 3) Last Date for submission 15-12-2022 upto 4.00 PM 4) Opening of Technical bid on 17-12-2022 @ 11.00 AM 5) Opening of Financial bid on 19-12-2022 @ 11.00 AM 5) Stipulated period–6 months including mansoon 6) Amount put to tender for a) Rs.76.18 lakhs b) Rs 109.24 lakhs & c) Rs.42.11 lakhs, 7) class of Contractor KPWD Class-III and above Registered contractors

Any information required in this regard can be had from the E-procurement Portal www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in an Office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL R&R Division Athani and this office Telephone No.08289-285031 during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KNNL R&R Division, Athani.
DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1320/MCA/2022-23

'Apollo gains EU-tyre-market share after Russia sanctions'

N. Anand
CHENNAI

Apollo Tyres has gained market share in Europe following the sanctions imposed by the European Union (EU) against Russia, said Neeraj Kanwar, vice-chairman and MD.

"Close to 10-12 million tyres were coming in from Russia into the EU," Mr. Kanwar said during an earnings call. "But, it was stopped because of the sanctions," he added.

This gave Apollo Tyres an opportunity to gain entry into various networks, enabling it to gain market share. 'This [growth] will continue," he added.

Neeraj Kanwar

"Today, our plants are running in Europe at nearly full capacity. In fact, we are also bringing in close to 1-1.5 million tyres from India," Mr. Kanwar said.

"We are trying to service the passenger-car market in Europe because we see huge growth, specifically for the Vredestein brand. And, I believe that the growth is there for us, given this void that has come from Russia."

According to CFO Gaurav Kumar, the plant in Hungary is getting close to producing about 16,000 tyres a day following debottlenecking initiatives.

"Currently, we are operating somewhere around 14,000-14,500 tyres." He said the net debt for India operations stood at about ₹4,200 crore. The firm is yet to fix capex for FY24.

"We want to see where the markets are going. The capex in the first half of the year is under ₹400 crore on a consolidated basis."

Nasscom to 'support' govt. on Data Protection Bill

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The National Association of Software and Services Companies (Nasscom) on Monday said it would work with the government to strengthen the recently-introduced Digital Personal Data Protection Bill 2022 from a privacy and innovation perspective.

The apex body representatives had recently met IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Secretary MeitY Alkesh Kumar Sharma to provide their initial feedback and suggestions on the Bill.

GOODBYE?

Lewandowski exit with Poland looks like World Cup farewell

Robert Lewandowski smiled when approaching Kylian Mbappé after the final whistle Sunday, embracing him even though latter's two goals had helped end his World Cup in a 3-1 loss that sent France to the quarterfinals. Lewandowski lingered as the last player left on the field. It sure looked like a slow walk away from a last World Cup.

OFF WITH IT!

No gold chains please, Kounde told by match official

France defender Jules Kounde was told by a match official to remove two gold chains he was wearing during the defending World champion's game against Poland. Kounde had the chains on until the 41st minute — on clear display up to that point in Sunday's match — when referee Jesus Valenzuela instructed him to take them off.

BITTER PILL

Senegal received a World Cup lesson from England, says Cisse

Senegal coach Aliou Cisse bemoaned his team's defensive lapses after England brushed the African champion aside 3-0 on Sunday, admitting there had been a gulf in quality. "We were playing a very good England team and we saw that in their challenges, their strength. We weren't as good as we should have been," he said.

MORE THAN JUST LUCK

Enrique set Spain players 'homework' of 1,000 penalties

Spain coach Luis Enrique set each of his players the "homework" of practising 1,000 penalties ahead of the World Cup, saying he is convinced they are not a lottery. The 2010 world champions face Morocco in the last 16 on Tuesday, with the threat of extra-time and penalties looming in the knockout phase of the tournament in Qatar.

Livakovic on the ball as Croatia shoots out a spirited Japan

The goalkeeper saves three penalties before Pasalic nets the match-winner and puts Modric's men in the quarterfinals

FIFA WORLD CUP

Reuters
DOHA

Goalkeeper Dominik Livakovic saved three spot-kicks as Croatia beat Japan 3-1 in a penalty shootout to reach the World Cup quarterfinals for the third time after an enthralling 120-minute contest finished 1-1 on Monday.

Takumi Minamino, Kaoru Mitoma and Maya Yoshida were all denied by Livakovic before Mario Pasalic coolly sent Japan 'keeper Shuichi Gonda the wrong way to set up a last-eight date for the Croatians.

Three times in the knockout rounds in Russia four years ago, the Croatians came from behind to advance after extra-time before losing to France in the final.

They once again showed their resilience and patience by coming from a goal down to tame a lively Japan team which had beaten Germany and Spain in the group stage.

Daizen Maeda opened the scoring for Japan in the 43rd minute and Ivan Perisic headed home the equaliser 10 minutes after the break, but the teams could not be separated over the remainder of the game.

Perfect interception: Livakovic got his dives spot on, denying Japan thrice in the penalty shoot out. AFP

Another heartache

Japan suffered a round of 16 heartache for the fourth time after a loss to Turkey in 2002, exiting on penalties against Paraguay in 2010 and giving up a 2-0 lead to lose to a stoppage-time goal against Belgium four years ago.

Monday's match was more open than anyone had reason to expect, with Croatia ratcheting up the physicality to gradually take control of midfield and Japan trying to hit it on the break.

Perisic was put through on goal in the eighth minute but Gonda pushed away his shot; Bruno Petkovic also had a one-on-one, only to tap an attempted pass tamely through the Japanese goalkeeper's legs.

Japan showed far more adventure than it had in the first half of its group matches and Shogo Taniguchi, Daichi Kamada and Maeda all had chances to open the scoring before the latter broke the deadlock in the 43rd minute.

Maeda strikes

Ritsu Doan took the ball from a short corner and curled it into the box where Bruno Petkovic deflected it back across the six-yard area under close attention from Yoshida and Maeda pounced to tuck it into the net.

The equaliser came 12 minutes later with a cross from the same flank, Dejan Lovren lofting a beauty into the box and Perisic getting in front of his marker to head the ball powerfully into the bottom right corner of Gonda's goal.

That brought Japan out of its shell and Wataru Endo was soon firing in a long-range effort which Livakovic tipped over the bar.

Luka Modric had a sweetly struck shot from range turned over by Gonda in the 63rd minute and substitute Ante Budimir steered a header wide of the post.

Gonda again had to be at his best to keep out a rocket from Perisic in the 77th minute, while at the other end Japan continued its raids but without carving out any clear-cut chances.

Extra time was a little more ragged although a thrilling run and piledriver of a shot from Japan substitute Kaoru Mitoma brought a fine save out of Livakovic just before the break.

Japan kept its nerve throughout the match but crumbled in the shootout as Nikola Vlasic and Marcelo Brozovic put Croatia 2-1 ahead before Pasalic sealed the deal for Croatia.

The result: Japan 1 (Maeda 43) drew with Croatia 1 (Perisic 55); Croatia won 3-1 on penalties.

Henderson, Kane and Saka put Senegal to the sword

Breaking through: Henderson netted the opening goal for England in the 38th minute. AP

Agence France-Presse
AL KHOR

England set up a titanic World Cup quarterfinal against holder France as Jude Bellingham's masterclass inspired a 3-0 win against Senegal in the last 16 on Sunday.

Gareth Southgate's side survived a nervous start at the Al Bayt Stadium before Jordan Henderson and Harry Kane put Senegal to the sword with a pair of clinical finishes before half-time.

Bukayo Saka scored England's third, but it was Bellingham's prodigious work-rate and burgeoning quality in possession that allowed them to turn the tide.

Bellingham set up Henderson's opener and the Borussia Dortmund midfielder was involved again when England captain Kane bagged his first goal in this World Cup. Kane has now netted 11 times at major tournaments, overtaking Gary Lineker as England's all-time top scorer in those competitions.

But at the tender age of 19, it is Bellingham who has emerged as England's driving force. He is the first teenager to assist in a World Cup knockout-stage game since 1966, having already announced his arrival on the global stage by netting his first England goal in the 6-2 rout of Iran in their group opener.

Eyeing a third successive semi-final appearance at major tournaments, England will return to the Al Khor desert on Saturday to take on the red-hot Kylian Mbappe and company after France brushed aside Poland 3-1 on Sunday.

Senegal squandered a golden opportunity to take the lead when Harry Maguire gave the ball away and Boulaye Dia's volley deflected off John Stones into Ismaila Sarr's path, only for the Watford forward to blaze over from close-range.

Preying on England's nerves, Sarr harried Saka and Dia seized the loose ball, forcing a good save from Jordan Pickford with a fierce drive.

That proved the turning point as England snatched the lead against the run of play in the 38th minute.

Bellingham sprinted onto Harry Kane's incisive pass into the Senegal area and clipped a precise cutback into the path of Liverpool midfielder Henderson, who guided his low strike past Edouard Mendy from 12 yards.

Bellingham was the catalyst with his well-timed tackle and a crisp pass to Foden, whose perfectly-weighted lay-off allowed Kane to race clear for a clinical finish just before interval.

England strolled through the second half and, repaying Southgate's faith, Saka put the result beyond doubt in the 57th minute.

The result: England 3 (Henderson 38, Kane 45+3, Saka 57) bt Senegal 0.

Pele not under palliative care, says daughter

Reuters
SAO PAULO

Brazil great Pele has not been moved to palliative care, one of his daughters said on Sunday, downplaying reports that he was in end-of-life care after the 82-year-old was hospitalised last week to re-evaluate his treatment as he battles colon cancer.

Pele had a tumour removed from his colon in September 2021 and has been receiving hospital care on a regular basis.

Newspaper *Folha de S.Paulo* reported on Saturday that he was under palliative care after chemotherapy stopped having the expected results.

Pele's doctors have not confirmed that information and his daughter, Flavia Nascimento, said the report was wide off the mark.

"It's pretty unfair people saying that he is in terminal condition, that he is under palliative care. Believe us: that's not it," she said in an interview with Globo TV.

Pele. REUTERS

The latest report from medical staff, released Saturday afternoon, said Pele was in stable condition and had also responded well to treatment for a respiratory infection diagnosed after his hospitalisation.

Another one of Pele's daughters, Kely, added in the interview that he had COVID-19 some three weeks ago, which led to the respiratory infection.

Spain may find Morocco's defence a hard nut to crack

Ayon Sengupta
DOHA

Luis Enrique is the coolest coach in town with his Guardiola-like high-fashion look of chinos and full-sleeve round-neck tees in solid colours. He cycled in the Spanish mountains while announcing his World Cup squad and runs a Twitch vlog alongside his coaching duties. But Enrique is also single-minded, his operating style the most important, the results sometimes become secondary as the Spanish coach nitpicks about the system his team should play.

Vital cogs: Spain will bank on the scoring prowess of Morata, while Hakimi will be Morocco's trump card. AP

Today's Fiesta
Morocco vs Spain (8.30 P.M., IST)
Matches 3, Spain 2, Drawn 1
Portugal vs Switzerland (12.30 A.M., WED)
Matches 25, Portugal 9, Switzerland 11, Drawn 5

Clear idea

"Spain must do what it proposes in each game. We have a very clear idea; we are not going to change it throughout the championship. although that does not mean that we always have to dominate," the former Barcelona coach reiterated his stance in the pre-game media interaction.

The penchant to play from the back has already cost him dear, goalkeeper Unai Simon slipping in an own goal at the Euro against Croatia and was again at fault for Japan's opening goal in the 2-1 loss. Morocco, with its speedy full-back pairing of Achraf Hakimi and Noussair Mazraoui, will look to exploit this tendency and press the Spanish 'keeper and the defence hard to win the early balls in the opposition half.

Spain's worry might be compounded further if the experienced Cesar Azpilicueta misses out because of a calf injury but Dani Carvajal can be an able deputy as the right-back. Dani Olmo also was absent from the training session, but Enrique will surely recall Ferran Torres and Jordi Alba to the starting XI after the duo sat out the Japan game. Alvaro Morata, with three goals in three games, will feel confident of retaining his place and give Spain a sturdier goal-scoring threat against Morocco which has conceded just once in its three games.

"Each match is a final for us, and we will create a surprise against Spain," Morocco manager Walid Regragui said. "Spain has experience that we don't have in the World Cup. It's a game we haven't played in 36 years. We can go down in history. It's worth giving the maximum and having no regrets. It's the most important game in our history."

Enrique, despite the array of talents in his squad, acknowledged Morocco's well-worked defence won't be easy to crack. His philosophy for the game, however, remains simple.

"The objective from the beginning is to play seven games. I buy the complete package, both winning and losing. Football is a very complex sport. If you lose for whatever reason... well, we will congratulate the opponent," he said.

Spain enjoyed 82% possession in the 7-0 win over Costa Rica and 83% in the loss to Japan but has won just 13 corners in its three group games, showcasing its reluctance to play long balls in the opposition box. Morocco, as well, would be happy to cede possession and wait for the Spanish to make mistakes.

INBRIEF

India fined 80% of match fee for slow over-rate in first ODI

India was penalised for slow over-rate during the first ODI against Bangladesh in Mirpur on Sunday, with the players coughing up 80% of their match fee. India lost the opening game of the three-match series by one wicket. ICC elite panel match referee Ranjan Madugalle imposed the sanction after India was ruled to be four overs short of the target after time allowances were taken into consideration.

Livingstone ruled out of remainder of Test series

England all-rounder Liam Livingstone was on Monday ruled out of the remainder of the Test series against Pakistan after sustaining a right knee injury during the first match. The 29-year-old Livingstone, who made his Test debut in the Rawalpindi thriller, jarred his knee while fielding on the boundary on the second day on Friday. He remained off the field for all of Pakistan's first innings.

Odisha CM Patnaik launches Trophy tour of FIH World Cup

The Trophy tour of the FIH Odisha hockey men's World Cup 2023 officially kicked off in Bhubaneswar on Monday with Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik handing over the trophy to Hockey India president Dilip Tirkey. The last leg of the tour will be in Rourkela before finally returning to the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar where the final will be played on January 29, 2023.

India can regain World Cup, says Pakistan's Tahir Zaman

Former Pakistan captain Tahir Zaman believes India can reclaim the hockey World Cup title after a hiatus of 47 years if it can handle the pressure of being the host and play consistently well. Zaman, who was part of Pakistan's 1994 World Cup-winning team, said playing the event at home has its pros and cons. "India has a good chance this time. To be honest, it has the home ground and home crowd advantage, but it should not forget that it can also be a disadvantage. The pressure of the home crowd is something the Indians have to be careful about," said Zaman.

Paltan, Pink Panthers roll past rivals, book semifinal berths

Puneri Paltan defeated Patna Pirates 44-30 in the Pro Kabaddi League in Hyderabad on Monday and sealed a place in the semifinals. Akash Shinde (13 points) and Mohammad Nabibakhsh (9) were the architects of Paltan's win. Jaipur Pink Panthers scored a 44-30 win over Haryana Steelers to confirm its place in the last four.

LIVE TELECAST

I-League: Eurosport (SD & HD), 2 & 7 p.m.
PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 p.m.
FIFA World Cup 2022: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 8.30 p.m. & 12.30 a.m. (Wednesday)

Honestly I had the belief that we could win, says Mehidy Hasan

If I thought that we would lose or wouldn't be able to get the remaining runs, it wouldn't have worked out like this, reveals the all-rounder

INDIA IN BANGLADESH

ANI
DHAKA

Mehidy Hasan Miraz and Mustafizur Rahman stitched up an unbeaten 51-run partnership to guide Bangladesh home against India in a thriller on Sunday. Mehidy revealed he believed that he could win it for Bangladesh.

"Maybe people will call me mad, but honestly I had the belief that we could win. I only focused on winning the game. I kept telling myself that I can do this. I thought I would score 15 runs with Ebadot, 20 with Hasan Mahmud and the remaining 15-20 with Mustafiz. But two quick wickets meant that it was a do-or-die situation with the last wicket remaining. I had to take calculated risks. Mustafiz's words really stayed with me. It gave me more belief," said Mehidy.

Mehidy said that the words of his batting partner Mustafizur, gave him confidence. "Mustafizur told me, 'you don't worry about me. I will stop the ball at my end. I will take balls on the body, but I won't get out,'" he said. "If I thought that we would lose or we wouldn't be able to get the remaining runs, it wouldn't have worked out like this. It was definitely a do-or-die situation. There was no problem getting out trying to hit out. When we needed 50 runs, I took my chances and they came off."

"We've lost a lot of close matches, but Mustafiz kept giving me encouragement. He told me, 'don't hurry, don't try to hit a six. You bat along the ground, we will get the runs'. I was very clear with my game plan. I knew exactly what I wanted to do. That helped too," he said.

Making it happen: Mehidy Hasan backed his self-confidence with a composed knock. AP

Stokes' England pulls off a famous win in fading light

Lion-hearted effort: Anderson, who bowled his heart out, appeals successfully for a leg-before decision against Rauf. GETTY IMAGES

Reuters
RAWALPINDI

England pulled off a stunning 74-run victory over Pakistan in the first Test on Monday, claiming the final wicket in rapidly fading light to take a 1-0 lead in the three-match series.

The visitors amassed 657 in their first innings and declared their second on 264 for seven, setting Pakistan a target of 343.

Pakistan fought gamely and reached 268 before being dismissed in an absorbing final session, Saud Shakeel top-scoring for the hosts with 76.

Mohammad Rizwan made 46 and Azhar Ali scored 40 with an injured finger but they could only delay the inevitable.

Pakistan's last pair of Naseem Shah and Mohammad Ali resisted for nearly nine overs before the former fell lbw to Jack Leach barely 10 minutes before the scheduled end of play.

"A few days ago we were running around trying to start on time," England captain Ben Stokes said referring to a virus which affected several England players.

"So credit to the group for coming here, turning up under the weather. What we've had to deal with coming in makes this win even better."

Stokes' bold declaration set the stage for a riveting contest and his bowlers put up a lion-hearted effort on a lifeless pitch to secure a memorable victory.

James Anderson (four for 36) and Ollie Robinson (four for 50) were England's most successful bowlers while Stokes marshalled his team expertly in the field.

Robinson, who made 37 in the first innings and finished the game with five wickets, was adjudged player of the match.

"We were not up to the mark. We had a golden chance to win this Test, but session by session we kept losing wickets," Pakistan captain Babar Azam rued.

The scores:
England 657 & 264/7 decl. bt Pakistan 579 & 268 in 96.3 overs (Saud Shakeel 76, Imam-ul-Haq 48, Mohammad Rizwan 46, Azhar Ali 40, James Anderson 4/36, Ollie Robinson 4/50). *England won by 74 runs to lead the three-match series 1-0.*

Player-of-the-Match: Ollie Robinson.

Noted tennis coach Bollettieri passes away

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

Legendary tennis coach Nick Bollettieri, who helped develop superstars such as Andre Agassi and Maria Sharapova, has died aged 91, the IMG Academy announced in a statement on Monday.

"Nick Bollettieri, the legendary tennis coach and founder of Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy, which served as the foundation for today's IMG Academy, has passed away," read the statement.

While his methods were sometimes controversial, his academy in Florida churned out top players and he was to coach 10 players who would go on to become number one in the world.

Monica Seles, Jim Courier, Anna Kournikova and Mary Pierce were other stars who passed through his Bradenton complex.

Bollettieri also advised Venus and Serena Williams and Boris Becker.

"Tennis wouldn't be where it is today without Nick's influence," said Jimmy Arias, IMG Academy director of tennis and one of Bollettieri's original students.

"His tennis academy, which I had the privilege of growing up within, not only served as a launching pad for many tennis greats but evolved into an institution that has had a profound impact on the development of athletes across many sports at all levels."

Nick Bollettieri. FILE PHOTO

Bollettieri founded the Nick Bollettieri Tennis Academy – now IMG Academy – in 1978 with a focus on intense physical training, total immersion, and ongoing competition among the most talented players in the world.

His enthusiasm for coaching continued almost right up to the end.

"Even in his last days, you could often find him on campus, coaching and mentoring young student-athletes and staff with the same passion and enthusiasm as he did in his 20s," said Tim Pernetti, President of IMG Academy Bradenton, a division of IMG Academy.

"Our heart goes out to his wife, Cindi, and his children. He has made a permanent and lasting impact on all of us."

Shafali Verma.

Shafali to lead India in women's U-19 World Cup

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Shafali Verma was on Monday named captain of India's 15-member squad for the ICC U-19 Women's T20 World Cup to be held in South Africa from January 14 to 29.

The teams: SA T20s: Shafali Verma (Capt.), Shweta Sehrawat (Vice-capt.), Richa Ghosh (wk), G. Trisha, Soumya Tiwari, Sonia Mehdiya, Hurley Gala, Hrishita Basu (wk), Sonam Yadav, Mannat Kashyap, Archana Devi, Parshavi Chopra, Titas Sadhu, Falak Naz, M.D. Shabnam, Shikha, C.M.C. Najla, Yashashree.

ICC Under-19 women's World Cup: Shafali Verma (Capt.), Shweta Sehrawat (Vice-capt.), Richa Ghosh (wk), G. Trisha, Soumya Tiwari, Sonia Mehdiya, Hurley Gala, Hrishita Basu (WK), Sonam Yadav, Mannat Kashyap, Archana Devi, Parshavi Chopra, Titas Sadhu, Falak Naz, M.D. Shabnam; **Standbyes:** Shikha, Najla and Yashashree.

Hovland keeps his cool, seals another title

Ashwin Achal
NASSAU

Viktor Hovland survived the late jitters to claim the Hero World Challenge (HWC) at Albany here.

Entering the final hole of the tournament with a two shot lead over Scottie Scheffler, Hovland looked comfortable. An approach into the water, however, opened the door for Scheffler.

Scheffler would have made things interesting if he holed a chip from the sandy area. He nearly pulled it off - the ball lipped out.

Norwegian Hovland, meanwhile, made a 20-foot putt to card a bogey and win the title.

Hovland became the second man, after Tiger Woods, to win back-to-back HWC titles. Hovland took the winner's purse of $1 million.

"When you're standing there with a two-shot lead, it's the last thing you want. Just do anything else but hit it in the water. So as soon as that happened, I was pretty frustrated. It was a lot more stressful than it should have been," Hovland said.

On Norway producing world-class sportspersons, Hovland said, "We only have five, six million people, but it seems like when Magnus Carlsen is winning, everyone tunes in and starts playing chess. Erling Haaland's been incredible; the same with Casper Ruud in tennis. People love their sports. They root for their fellow countrymen when they do something well."

Scheffler, who would have climbed to the top of world ranking had he won the tournament, said, "I said earlier in the week that I don't like finishing second. It's not a good feeling right now. But I'm proud of the fight."

The scores (top five): **272**: Viktor Hovland (69, 70, 64,69); **274**: Scottie Scheffler (72, 68, 66, 68); 276: Cameron Young (71, 69, 68, 68); **277**: Xander Schauffele (72, 68, 69, 68); **278**: Justin Thomas (72, 70, 66,70).

(The author is in Nassau on invitation from Hero MotoCorp)

In elite club: Hovland is the second golfer after Woods to win back-to-back titles at the Hero World Challenge. AFP

Six gold for Indian para shuttlers in Lima

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Indian shuttlers, led by Sukant Kadam, shone at the Peru Para Badminton International in Lima by clinching six gold medals.

Kadam (SL4), Nehal Gupta (SL3) won gold in the men's category while Nithya Sre Sumathy Sivan and Mandeep Kaur took the yellow metal in women's SH6 and SL3.

The men's duo of Nehal and Breno Johann (SL3-SL4) and the women's pair of Parul Parmar and Vaishali Nilesh Patel (SL3-SU5) also won gold.

'WIPL would help youngsters understand intl. cricket'

When they get a chance to play against overseas players, it will give them a platform, they can play well: Harmanpreet

CRICKET

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Stars such as Harmanpreet Kaur and Smriti Mandhana feel the women's IPL could help newcomers in making a seamless transition from domestic to international cricket.

The inaugural women's IPL is set to be held in March and some of the country's top players, from national team captain Harmanpreet to senior opener Mandhana, are looking forward to the event that will also see participation from overseas stars.

Speaking on a *Star Sports* show, Harmanpreet said, "The IPL will be a great platform for players that are really good, but you know for them, international cricket is still something that they cannot change their approach and mind-set overnight.

"But in the IPL, when they get a chance to play against overseas players, it will give them a platform, they can play well, they can understand what is international cricket."

"So, when they are playing for the Indian team, they will not face any extra pressure, because right now, the players that are selected from the domestic teams, sometimes I can see that they are blank, they are not able to understand how to change their game plan. To cut that gap, the tournament will play a major role."

Smriti compared the women's IPL with leagues such as The Hundred and the WBBL and spoke about how they have helped their domestic players.

"All of women's cricket, I won't say the Indian team or the domestic set-up. We keep talking about how it will increase the bench strength," she said.

"But actually, the fact is that it's going to help the domestic girls massively because that sort of experience in playing in leagues like this will get a lot of things sorted for women's cricket," Smriti said.

"Grassrootwise we have seen how the Big Bash and The Hundred have helped Australia and England respectively in their domestic set-up as well as other things.

"So, I'm actually really happy, the Indian team will benefit a lot from the women's IPL, but it's also going to benefit a lot of domestic girls which I'm looking forward to."

Batter Jemimah Rodrigues said the women's IPL would take the game to the next level in India.

"The women's IPL is going to change a lot of things for women's cricket in India. I think this is like the best platform for us now that we as an Indian team have been doing so well in all the major events like the World Cup, the Commonwealth," Rodrigues said.

Step in the right direction: Harmanpreet and Smriti feel that the Women's IPL would bridge the gap between domestic and international cricket. AFP

Briar Ridge wins main event

HYDERABAD: Trainer Prasad Raju's Briar Ridge, ridden by Suraj Narredu, won the Mica Empress Plate (Div. I), the main event of Monday's (Dec. 5) races here.

The winner is owned by Mr. Teegala Vijendar Reddy, Mr. Teegala Sumant Reddy & Mr. Ashok Ranpise.

1. MEDARAM PLATE (1,200m), 4-y-o and upward, rated upto 25 (Cat. III): **GLIMMER OF HOPE** (Gaurav Singh) 1, Fatuma (P. Ajeeth Kumar) 2, Inside Story (R.S. Jodha) 3 and Sweet Melody (Afroz Khan) 4. 2-3/4, 1-1/2 and 1/2. 1m 13. 13s. ₹34 (w), 14, 11 and 17 (p). SHP: 28, THP: 49, SHW: 30 and 10, FP: 62, Q: 25, Tanala: 251. Favourite: Fatuma. Owner: Mr. Praveen Kumar Katakam. Trainer: N. Ravinder Singh.

2. BASARA PLATE (1,200m), Maiden, 3-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III): **PICTURE ME** (P. Ajeeth Kumar) 1, N R I Fantasy (B.R. Kumar) 2, Wind Sprite (Afroz Khan) 3 and Flaming Falcon (B. Nikhil) 4. 2-3/4, 1 and Hd. 1m 12. 65s. ₹28 (w), 11, 19 and 16 (p). SHP: 45, THP: 50, SHW: 17 and 14, FP: 134, Q: 69, Tanala: 601. Favourite: Picture Me. Owner: Mr. G. Krishnamohan Rao. Trainer: D. Netto.

3. FLORINA PLATE (1,600m), Maiden, 3-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III): **PATH OF PEACE** (Afroz Khan) 1, Ivanhoe (Surya Prakash) 2, Role Model (Gaurav Singh) 3 and Black Opal (Santosh Raj) 4. 2, 2 and Nk. 1m 41. 42s. ₹19 (w), 13, 14 and 16 (p). SHP: 43, THP: 40, SHW: 43, THP: 40, SHW: 15 and 25, FP: 87, Q: 52, Tanala: 277. Favourite: Path Of Peace. Owner: Miss Yashaswi Dilip Galwankar. Trainer: L.V.R. Deshmukh.

4. BONZER PLATE (DIV. I) (1,200m) Maiden, 3-y-o and upward, rated upto 25 (Cat. III): **LIGHTS ON** (R.S. Jodha) 1, Saint Emilion (Gaurav Singh) 2, Space Time (B. Nikhil) 3 and My Way Or Highway (Mohit Singh) 4. 1/2, 1 and Nk. 1m 13. 37s. ₹50 (w), 17, 13 and 114 (p). SHP: 35, THP: 230, SHW: 15 and 18, FP: 193, Q: 68, Tanala: 10, 288. Favourtie: Silver Lining. Owner: M.A.M. Ramaswamy Chettiar Of Chettinad Charitable Trust. Trainer: K. Satheesh.

5. MICA EMPRESS PLATE (DIV. I) (1,200m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 40 to 65 (Cat. II): **BRIAR RIDGE** (Suraj Narredu) 1, Unsung Hero (Rafique Sk.) 2, Lifes Song (Akshay Kumar) 3 and Miss Little Angel (B.R. Kumar) 4. Hd, Nose and 2-1/2. 1m 11. 31s. ₹21 (w), 11, 27 and 12 (p). SHP: 63, THP: 63, SHW: 18 and 78, FP: 186, Q: 278, Tanala: 620. Favourite: Lifes Song. Owners: Mr. Teegala Vijender Reddy, Mr. Teegala Sumant Reddy & Mr. Ashok Ranpise. Trainer: Prasad Raju.

6. BASARA PLATE (DIV. II) (1,200m) Maiden, 3-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III): **STAY SMART** (B. Nikhil) 1, Avancia (Suraj Narredu) 2, Milton Keynes (B.R. Kumar) 3 and Stoic Hero (Aneel) 4. 1/2, 2-1/2 and 3/4. 1m 12. 65s. ₹117 (w), 18, 12 and 52 (p). SHP: 35, THP:128, SHW: 59 and 14, FP: 319, Q: 78, Tanala: 3,705. Favourite: Avancia. Owner: Kunwar Digvijay Singh Shekhawat. Trainer: N. Ravinder Singh.

7. MICA EMPRESS PLATE (DIV. II) (1,200m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 40 to 65: **MAXIMUM GLAMOUR** (Suraj Narredu) 1, General Atlantic (Gaurav Singh) 2, City Of Bliss (B.R. Kumar) 3 and Bugsy (P. Ajeeth Kumar) 4. 2-3/4, 1-1/4 and 2. 1m 10. 92s. ₹24 (w), 13, 12 and 19 (p). SHP: 43, THP: 49, SHW: 17 and 17, FP: 78, Q: 48, Tanala: 281. Favourtie: Maximum Glamour. Owners: Mr. Donald Anthony Netto, Mr. Veeramachaneni Bharat & Mr. Srikanth Badruka. Trainer: D. Netto.

8. TINTINNABULATION PLATE (1,400m), 4-y-o and upward, rated 20 to 45 (Cat. III): **DESPANG** (Surya Prakash) 1, Char Ek Char (Akshay Kumar) 2, Salisbury (Santosh Raj) 3 and Unmatched (B.R. Kumar) 4. 3/4, Nk and Nose. 1m 25. 61s. ₹59 (w), 19, 12 and 28 (p). SHP: 45, THP: 63, SHW: 29 and 18, FP: 170, Q: 83, Tanala: 1,345. Favourite: Char Ek Char. Owner: Col. S.B. Nair. Trainer: L.V.R. Deshmukh.

9. BONZER PLATE (DIV. II) (1,200m) Maiden, 3-y-o and upward, rated upto 25 (Cat. III): **DECCAN RANGER** (Santosh Raj) 1, Sound Echo (D.S. Deora) 2, Voice Of A Dream (P. Ajeeth Kumar) 3 and It's My Life (B. Nikhil) 4. Not run: Sport On Fire and Choice Of Diamond. Nose, 3/4 and 1-1/4. 1m 14. 84s. ₹150 (w), 26, 16 and 12 (p). SHP: 49, THP: 59, SHW: 65 and 26, FP: 893, Q: 410, Tanala: 2,307. Favourite: Voice Of A Dream. Owners: Mr. M. Sudheer Reddy, Mr. Mirza Ayub Baig, Mohammed Rashed Ali Khan & Mr. Sharath Chandra Reddy Malipedhi. Trainer: S.S.F. Hassan.

Jackpot (i): 70%: ₹18, 995 (5 tkts.), 30%: ₹1,769 (23 tkts.), (ii) 70%: ₹1,36,704 (4 tkts.), 30%: ₹3,083 (76 tkts.).

Mini jackpot: (i): ₹4,676 (10 tkts.), (ii): ₹69,883 (c/f).

Treble (i): ₹940 (25 tkts.), (ii): ₹1,613 (25 tkts.), (iii): ₹2,905 (34 tkts.).

IOA election only for jt. secretary, Executive Council Member slots

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) election, scheduled on December 10, will only be for the four Executive Council Member positions from among eight candidates, and for the woman joint secretary post, as the rest of the positions have unopposed candidates.

As already announced, P.T. Usha will be the president. Ajay Patel will be the senior Vice President. Rajlaxmi Singh Deo and Gagan Narang will be the vice presidents.

Sahdev Yadav will be the treasurer.

The joint secretary will be Kalyan Chaubey, while the female joint secretary post will see a contest between Alaknanda Ashok and Suman Kaushik.

Dola Banerjee and Yogeshwar Dutt will be the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOM) in the Executive Council, filling up two of the six spots.

Amitabh Sharma, Bhupender Singh Bajwa, Cyrus Poncha, Harjinder Singh, Harpal Singh, Parminder Singh Dhindsa, Rohit Rajpal and Vitthal Shirgaonkar will fight for the four other Executive Member positions, as announced by the Returning Officer Umesh Sinha, at the end of the withdrawal deadline of candidates.

AIFF withdraws bid to host Asian Cup

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India withdrew its bid on Monday to stage the 2027 AFC Asian Cup with the All India Football Federation (AIFF) declaring that hosting big-ticket events is not among its "strategic priorities" at this juncture.

India and Saudi Arabia were the only two countries left as bidders to host the 2027 continental showpiece after countries such as Iran and Uzbekistan pulled out of the race in October.

India's bid was launched amid much fanfare in 2020 when Praful Patel was the AIFF president but the current dispensation under Kalyan Chaubey feels "building the foundations of football structure" through grassroots and youth development was more important than hosting big events.

"As per the strategic roadmap of the federation, which will be announced later this month, the AIFF management thinks hosting of big events doesn't fit into the federation's strategic priorities," the AIFF said in a release, quoting its executive committee.

"Our current focus is building the foundations of proper footballing structure before thinking of hosting bigger events like the AFC Asian Cup."

KARNATAKA ROUND-UP

Yashaswini and Shikha chosen for 2021 Ekalavya Award

BENGALURU: Table tennis player Yashaswini Ghorpade and Badminton player Shikha Gautam were among 15 sportspersons chosen for the 2021 Ekalavya awards. The awards are set to be given away on Tuesday at the Raj Bhavan in the presence of Governor Thaawar Chand Gehlot and Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai.

Ekalavya awards:

B. Chethan (athletics), Shikha Gautam (badminton), Kirthi Rangaswamy (cycling), Aditi Vikrant Patil (fencing), Amruth Mudrabet (gymnastics), Sheshegowda (hockey), Reshma Maruri (tennis), T.J. Srijay (shooting), Tanish George Mathew (swimming), Yashaswini Ghorpade (table tennis), Hariprasad (volleyball), Suraj Sanju Annekeri (wrestling), H.S. Sakshath (netball), B.M. Manoj (basketball), M. Raghavendra (para athletics).

Lifetime achievement: Alka N. Padutare (cycling), B. Anand Kumar (para badminton), Shekarappa and B.J. Amarnath (yoga), K.C. Ashok (volleyball), Ravindra Shetty (kabaddi).

Kreeda Rathna (to promote rural and traditional sports): M.M. Kavana (ball badminton), B. Gajendra (shotput), Sridhar (kambala), Ramesh Malavad (kho kho), Veerabhadra Mudhol (mallakhamba), H. Kushi (yoga), Leena Anthony Siddi (matti kusthi), Darshan (kabaddi).

Yashaswini. FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

Shikha. FILE PHOTO

Karnataka Kreeda Poshaka Prashasthi: B.M.S. Women's College (Bengaluru Urban), Mangala Friends Circle (Dakshina Kannada), Nitte Education Trust (Udupi).

Innings win for Karnataka

MYSURU: An inspiring spell of medium-pace bowling by R. Dhanush Gowda (5/33) helped Karnataka bowl out Jammu & Kashmir for 149 in its second essay and registered an innings and 145-run win on the final day of the Cooch Behar u-19 Trophy match at the S.D.N.R. Wadayar grounds on Monday.

The scores: Jammu & Kashmir 83 in 49.3 overs & 149 in 44.2 overs (Ranjot Singh 43, Arya Thakur 42, Arnav Gupta 35, R. Dhanush Gowda 5/33) lost to Karnataka 380 in 105 overs.

Sarabjot and Manu take home mixed air pistol gold

Sports Bureau
BHOPAL

Sarabjot Singh and Manu Bhaker clinched the mixed air pistol gold for Haryana, as the duo outclassed Divya T.S. and Imroz Ahmed 16-4 in the National shooting championships at the Madhya Pradesh Academy.

The Haryana pair had topped qualification with 575 and outplayed the Karnataka team, which was only two points away in the first stage. Amanpreet Singh and Shweta Singh won the bronze for ONGC and so did Arjun Singh Cheema and Arshdeep Kaur for Punjab.

TTFI elections: Meghna, Kamlesh victorious

Rakesh Rao
NEW DELHI

The most eagerly-awaited elections of the Table Tennis Association of India (TTFI) proved a damp squib following the compromise between the two groups.

Following a deal struck after negotiations that ended around 3 a.m. on Monday, Meghna Ahlawat, wife of Haryana's Deputy Chief Minister and outgoing president Dushyant Chautala was voted as the president in exchange of the eight-time former National men's singles champion Kamlesh Mehta taking over as the secretary-general on Monday.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

BFC signs up Pablo Perez

Bengaluru FC, on Monday, announced the signing of Spanish attacking midfielder Pablo Perez on a deal that runs until the end of the season. The 29-year-old, a product of the Sporting Gijon Academy, most recently turned out for Los Rojiblancos in Spanish second tier.

From its foreign players' roster, BFC most recently lost forward Prince Ibara for the rest of the season because of an injury.

Kavin scalps five

C. Kavin's five-wicket haul (5/31) helped Wadiyar CC defeat Ranji CC by three wickets in the KSCA (Group I) fourth division league.

The scores:

Vikram 181 in 45.3 overs (K. Pavan Kumar 41, Benedict Raj Badiger 36, Shivnarayan Sahani 4/15) lost to Vijaya, Malur 182/7 in 44.3 overs (Mithul 81, D. Suraj 28).

Sangam CA 267/9 in 50 overs (Shaik Laiquddin 60, Shoheb Pasha 41, S. Gowrav 37, V.A. Kamal Raj 53, B.R. Manoj 3/57, S. Chiranjeevi 3/35) bt Star SC, Nelamangala 85 in 23.4 overs (Raghavendra Mohan Naik 4/17, M. Kiran 3/17).

Ranji 175 in 46.2 overs (V.S. Surya 26, R. Anand Kumar 69, C. Kavin 5/31) lost to Wadiyar 176/7 in 39.1 overs (Imran Pasha 32, Asgar Pasha 47 n.o., Mohammed Ajmal 41).

Freelancers 131 in 35.4 overs (Koushik Hegde 26, Omprakash Aglecha 28, Yeshwanth 3/22, Shoban Babur 3/27) lost to National United 132/5 in 25 overs (Yeshwanth 27, N. Dheeraj 35 n.o., V. Arun Nandan Gowda 3/10).

BEL Colony 165 in 39.2 overs (Akash Nitesh Shetty 34, K.Y. Karthik 43, Sangam Kasetty 3/23) bt Elite Blues 108 in 33.5 overs (G. Rajesh 33, B. Abhisek 34, Sidhanth Sudheer 3/22, Rohan Desai 3/31).

Palar, Kolar 270/9 in 50 overs (Ajay R. Sainis 48, Veer V. Katkol 38, Asit Kumar 25, B. Neelrattan 27, Rakesh Patel 53 n.o., Vikram Ananth 4/43) bt Standard 165 in 34.5 overs (S. Nishal 27, Anil Kudekallu 29, B. Neelrattan 4/33).

Perez.

Young Pioneer 160 in 42.1 overs (K. Vijay Kumar 44, Murali Krishna 3/26, N. Raghavendra 3/17) lost to Select Cricketers 162/4 in 28.4 overs (Abhijeeth 51, Arjun Dev Nagendra 27, N. Raghavendra 34 n.o., Irfan Khan 31 n.o.).

Friends XI, Doddaballapur 247/9 in 50 overs (Raza Mehdi 65, Abid Ali 52, Karthik Ramanna 26, Akash G. Pattar 3/39) bt South End 239/8 in 50 overs (P. Kiran Kumar 29, Vivek 99, G. Pradeep 84, S. Dhananjaya 4/60, Anand Arun Pillai 3/54).

Whirlwind Cricketers 300/8 in 50 overs (Kaushik Nair 62, Shreyank Sagar 84, C. Himanshoo Reddy 40, Sayan Arjun 27 n.o., Debarshi Ghosh 3/60) bt IISC Gymkhana 177 in 40.4 overs (Akshay 42, S. Arvind 4/33, Sayan Arjun 3/38).

Bharath 310/7 in 50 overs (Ashwin Kumar 48, Sumedh S. Rao 57, Manish Narayanan 40, Raghavendra M. Balgi 74) bt Jayanagar Colts 225 in 42.3 overs (A.R. Krishnan 31, Nagesh V. Rao 29, V. Surya 71, Ashwin Kumar 4/42, S.M. Sarfaraz 3/25).

Silky Town, Channapatna 226 in 49.2 overs (H.C. Abhishek 26, Sha Mudassir Uddin 46, C. Kushal 26, Venkatesh 45 n.o., A.V. Manoj 3/37) bt Minerva 219 in 49 overs (Revanth Bairy 56, M. Shiva Kumar 26, K.P. Bhargav 46, N. Macharla 3/42).

Let the game begin: Ritu Pathik, regional director, SAI and Sree Sree Siddalinga Swamiji, president of Siddaganga Mutt Tumakuru at the inauguration of the CBSE Cluster VIII kho kho competition at the Sri Siddaganga Higher Primary School on Monday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Hat-tricks by Manpreet and Govind

Manpreet Singh and Govind Nag scored hat-tricks as BCYA-A blanked Dhyanchand HC, Tumkur 9-0 in the KSHA B-division hockey league on Monday.

The result:

BCYA-A 9 (Manpreet Singh 3, 4, 24, Govind Nag 6, 37, 38, 40, Pavan 32, C. Kishan 36) bt Dhyanchand HC, Tumkur 0.

Brace by Ankith as BFC edges past Kickstart FC

P. Ankith scored twice as Bengaluru FC edged Kickstart FC 3-2 in the BDFA Super Division League football on Monday.

The results:

MEG & Center 1 (Imnaakum 80) bt Thanco's Students Union 0.

BUFC 2 (Guy Herman Beleck 61, 63) drew with Friends United 2 (I. Anwar 12, Pradeep Kumar 75).

BFC 3 (Akashdeep Singh 18, P. Ankith 22, 52) bt Kickstart 2 (S. Siju 29, Solai Malai 39).

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